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A MOTHER IN SAIGON.

Dear friends:

The Vietnam war that President Nixon wants to make disappear from the news in the United States and from the conscience of the American people, has probably made great headlines on the newspapers you are reading and reappeared on the small screens of your televisions during the last few days. The current situation in Vietnam cannot escape the attention of all those who are interested in following the developments there, especially when the

Oil painting by PHAM VIET SONG

(continued...)

Nixon administration is massively sending aircraft and warships to our country for intensified bombardments and when "the possible use of U.S. ground forces is not ruled out." As in previous escalations, U.S. officials are now resorting to slanderous allegations to cover up the truth and to involve the United States in the gears of an extremely dangerous war.

What are the facts?

The facts are that over the three years of his administration, Nixon has continued the war of the Johnson administration and brought it to a still larger scale, while trying to soothe the American public by talking a great deal about "ending U.S. involvement," "gradual withdrawal of U.S. forces," "negotiations," etc. The number of GIs in Vietnam has actually been reduced, but the tonnage of bombs and shells poured over our villages and our lands has greatly increased; more suffering, hardship and mourning have befallen our people; the oppression and the terror carried out by means of the Thieu administration against our people has reached an unbearable level. Jails, "tiger-cage" cells, concentration camps have never been so overcrowded as they are now with innocent men, women, children, intellectuals, and religious people indicted for the only crime of longing for peace.

What is the situation prevailing now in South Vietnam? Nothing but the evidence of the bitter failure of the policy of "Vietnamization" of the war. Nothing but the evidence of the unquenchable fighting force of the South Vietnamese people, who receive the unreserved assistance of their brothers and sisters in the North, the vigorous approval and support of the peace-and-justice-loving people and governments throughout the world.

The Nixon administration allegedly in the name of the United States is piling up new, monstrous crimes against the Vietnamese people in both zones. It is also threatening to bring back U.S. ground forces and to use nuclear weapons, etc. No doubt you still remember that this was the shortsighted policy that bogged the United States down in the Vietnam quagmire, smeared U.S. prestige and caused the loss of tens of thousands of American lives.

Saigon President Nguyen Van Thieu and the Saigon army will undoubtedly become more and more ineffective. No matter how strong the American support and how great the tonnage of U.S. bombs and shells, they cannot shake the Vietnamese people's will for independence and freedom.

It is precisely because he is clinging to such an erroneous policy that Nixon has rejected the peaceful negotiations in Paris. His order to suspend indefinitely the Paris conference does not show the least desire for genuine negotiations.

And what do we, the South Vietnamese people, ask for? We demand that the United States end its Vietnamization of the war, stop using Vietnamese to kill Vietnamese, halt the bombing in the whole of Vietnam, cease maintaining the warlike Nguyen Van Thieu clique and their bellicose machine of coercion, and let the South Vietnamese of various political tendencies set up a government of national concord, which will ensure the right to self-determination of the South Vietnamese people through genuinely free and democratic elections.

Could there be any more reasonable and logical demand? Nixon rejected our proposal for the resumption of the Paris conference as usual and tried to mislead you by such distortions as that we want to force the U.S. to "capitulate" and "to impose communism on South Vietnam," etc. This is sheer fallacy and cynical slander.

We would like to tell you that we deeply cherish peace and are eager to seek a just peaceful solution that conforms to the interests of both the Vietnamese and the American peoples. However, should Mr. Nixon stubbornly pursue the war and trample underfoot our deepest aspirations, then we are compelled to continue our fight.

Your task is heavy indeed. We hope you will realize this reality, check the Nixon administration's criminal hands, and demand that it end forthwith its bombardments in North and South Vietnam, resume the Paris conference on Vietnam, and negotiate seriously, stop using American resources, lives and prestige to protect the vile warmonger, Nguyen Van Thieu.

Such is the way to put an end to the sufferings and mournings of the Vietnamese people, to bring home the GIs; the really honorable and beneficial way out for the United States.

Make your voice of peace and justice be heard.

My friendly greetings and wishes of good luck to you all!

Mme. Nguyen Thi Binh



Vietnamese patriots stage daring ground assaults against U.S.-Saigon bases.

Kalayaan

Editorial

In these times the crimes, injustices and aggressive wars inflicted on the people of the world by imperialism are so blatant and massive that no movement or individual can be progressive without also being anti-imperialist. Today the clearest example of imperialist aggression and brutality is in Vietnam and Indochina.

Imperialism is on the decline — the revolutionary and progressive forces of the people are on the rise. Again Indochina is the focal point of this movement. In recent months the long struggle of the Vietnamese people for national liberation has entered its final stages. Their victory is inevitable and close at hand as Nixon grows more desperate and brutal.

In America the majority of the people want the war to end. Hundreds of thousands of people have gone into the streets in opposition to the aggressive policies of the U.S. government. This has had profound effects on American society. Today more and more people are supporting the 7 Point Peace Proposal of the Vietnamese as a just and reasonable plan for ending the war.

As Pilipino people living in America we should participate in this broader anti-imperialist movement and support the struggle of the Indochinese people against U.S. aggression.

Our people are part of the working class of America. We are all negatively affected by living in a decaying imperialist country — economically, ideologically and culturally. In addition, none of our people are part of the "big" capitalist class that stands to benefit from the present imperialist war in Indochina.

As Third World people in America we have experienced discrimination and racism which serves to keep us struggling at the bottom of society. We can see that America's "war machine" is directed primarily against colonialized, Third World countries and peoples, perpetuating poverty and backwardness in over two-thirds of the world in order to make a handful of corporate stockholders rich. When the U.S. "war machine" comes "home," it hits hardest against rebellious Blacks and other non-white peoples here. The racist pattern is not hard for us to understand. As TW people in America we know the Vietnamese people are not our enemy. We should support their right, and the right of all Third World people, for genuine self-determination.

As Asian people, the Pilipino, Vietnamese, Cambodian and Laotian peoples are neighboring and brother nations. Not only do we share many physical and cultural similarities, but our peoples have also been trading and interacting for centuries before there even was a United States of America. Today, the atrocities such as My Lai and other genocidal aspects of the U.S. war in Indochina hold serious and immediate lessons for Asian people. We should mobilize and be in the forefront in forcing Nixon to put an end to this destructive war and negotiate a just and immediate settlement in Indochina.

Finally our movement of progressive Pilipino people in America must deal squarely with the historical and political similarities between the struggles in Indochina and the Philippines.

The countries of Indochina and the Philippines were all colonialized by Western nations—the Indochinese people had French "masters" while the Pilipino people had American. It is often said that the French were vicious colonializers, however the people of the Philippines had early experienced the equal brutality of the Americans. Under the guise of "benevolence," the U.S. killed hundreds of thousands of Pilipino people and experimented as early as 1898 with "strategic hamlets" in an eight year effort to crush the independence movement of the Katipunan.

During WW II the Japanese fascists invaded Indochina and the Philippines as the people rose up in defense of their Homelands. In both instances the old colonial "masters" fled leaving the people to defend themselves against the Japanese. In Vietnam the struggle was led by Ho Chi Minh and the Viet Minh...

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FILIPINOS PROTEST ESCALATION OF U.S. AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM

by Rene Zerrudo-Gomez

MANILA—Protest against the U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam and the use of U.S. military bases in the Philippines for that purpose mounted even as government forces armed to the teeth staged an organized assault against 14,000 demonstrators in front of the U.S. embassy on May 20.

The rally of May 20, National Protest Day to tens of thousands of politically conscious Filipinos, was only one in a series of pickets and demonstrations set up in front of the U.S. embassy on Roxas Blvd. right after Nixon's announcement of the U.S. blockade in Vietnam. Several attempts had previously been made by both the embassy and the puppet Philippine government to break up such democratic actions and harass the participants, all to no avail.

On May 11, for example, 5,000 demonstrators who had massed outside the gates of the embassy were met by a score of pillbox bombs hurled, according to media men, from inside the embassy compound. After the explosions, newsmen covering the incident were harassed by middle-aged World War II veterans. These veterans brandished knives, rattan sticks and at least one 45 caliber pistol, and, moreover, admitted that they were being paid to protect "the property of the U.S. government."

True to imperialist form, the U.S. embassy immediately denied that anybody from inside the compound had thrown pillbox bombs or that it had hired veterans to do the job. U.S. ambassador Henry Byroade rushed a "diplomatic note" to Foreign Secretary Carlos P. Romulo "protesting the May 11 demonstration" and berating the Manila Police Department for not breaking up earlier "this potentially violent demonstration." Romulo, like the loyal running dog of U.S. imperialism that he has been for the past 50 years, took the cue and "urged" the Mayor of Manila to keep demonstrators 500 feet away from foreign diplomatic missions.

Protest actions against the U.S. war of aggression have not been confined to Manila. In Angeles City, location of Clark Air Base, where, as two U.S. Air Force sergeants had testified some weeks before, the U.S. keeps its B-52 bombers and replenishes its Seventh Fleet, 2,000 students and workers held a demonstration on May 14 to protest the use of U.S. bases here for military operations in Vietnam. Combined teams of the local police and the hated Philippine Constabulary, like all good running dogs, promptly staged a mass arrest, resulting in injury to many. Sixty-two activists were hauled to jail and then photographed, fingerprinted and questioned like ordinary criminals.

Despite all manner of harassment, however, the Movement for a Democratic Philippines (MDP), an aggrupation of about 100 national democratic organization, announced that it would organize daily pickets in front of the U.S. Embassy from May 15 to May 19, in preparation for the May 20 rally.



Expressing support for the just struggle of the peoples of Indochina against U.S. imperialism and aggression, the MDP also announced that it would hold a day-long National Conference on Indochina on May 19, culminated by the showing of the film "Iron Fortress."

The May 20 rally itself was participated in by peasants and youth from 10 provinces around Manila, workers from factories in the suburbs, women and child vendors (hawkers), university professors and students, priests, nuns, high school pupils, a number of delegates from the Constitutional Convention (a forum assigned by the reactionary government to draft a new constitution), and a sprinkling of progressive Americans. The demonstrators drew up three demands: (1) an immediate stop to the bombing and blockade of Vietnam; (2) the immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. troops in Indochina; and (3) a stop to the use of U.S. military bases in the Philippines as launching pads for U.S. aggression.

An eminent professor from a Catholic university testified afterwards that he was watching the demonstration from the sidewalk opposite the U.S. embassy, right in front of the Shellbourne Hotel, when pillbox bombs started falling from the top floors of the hotel. A delegate to the Constitutional Convention, formerly an official of one of the reactionary government's numerous intelligence agencies, reports that a fellow delegate who has a suite in the same hotel told him he saw government agents all around the vicinity from where the bombs were reported to have been thrown.

In spite of the obvious fact that the bombs were falling in the ranks of the demonstrators, however, combined forces of the Metropolitan Command (Metrocom), the Manila Police and the Philippine Marines used the explosions as an excuse to train

their teargas launchers, mace devices, truncheons, and high-powered rifles on the crowd of 14,000, just as the last strains of the National Anthem were being sung. The assault resulted in injury to at least 34 persons, including two press photographers. Seven of these are now in serious condition; at least one, at 18-year-old, was shot in the back.

Subsequent investigations were made by news reporters and a People's Investigating Committee organized after the assault revealed that of the 90 or so demonstrators picked up by the Metrocom, only 75 had been turned over to the Manila police as per previous agreement. The names of the 18 missing activists, all from the provinces around Manila, were published in the national dailies five days later.

Unable to whitewash the case due to continuous complaints from the parents and relatives of the missing activists, Brig. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, chief of the goon-ridden Philippine Constabulary, vainly tried to distort it by claiming that a "rightist terrorist group" was behind the mass kidnapping. The Ramos claim merely followed the line of illogic unsuccessfully advanced by the reactionary military establishment since the First Quarter Storm of 1970, when it insisted that the five youths who were killed in one demonstration had been shot by their own comrades. No one, however, believed the Ramos claim; the People's Investigating Committee placed the blame squarely on the shoulders of the ruling puppet clique, headed by the President of the reactionary government, Ferdinand E. Marcos, who had the temerity to announce, three days after the incident: "I do not find any fault on the part of the police officers. . . . They were quite restrained and were merely performing their duty of maintaining peace and order."

Unfazed by the puppet government's hysterical efforts to suppress the demonstrations, one member-organization of the MDP, the Samahang Demokratiko ng Kabataan (Democratic Organization of Youth), announced:

"If Nixon has imposed a blockade on Vietnam's northern ports as part of an offensive action against the Vietnamese people, so too has Marcos thrown a blockade in defense of the U.S. embassy. The Vietnamese have the right to break through the imperialist blockade as the Filipino people have the right to break the protective cordon of the Marcos fascist puppet clique around the U.S. embassy."

Another MDP member-organization, the Kabataang Makabayan (Patriotic Youth), issued the following call:

"DOWN WITH THE U.S. MARCOS FASCIST REGIME!"

"DOWN WITH THE MARCOS AND VAN THIEU PUPPET REGIMES!"

"DEFEND THE DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE!"

"PROTEST THE USE OF U.S. MILITARY BASES IN THE PHILIPPINES FOR THE U.S. WAR OF AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM!"

"VICTORY TO THE NATIONAL LIBERATION STRUGGLES OF THE PEOPLES OF VIETNAM AND THE PHILIPPINES!"



THE NPA NOW

The New Peoples Army, the military arm of the Communist Party of the Philippines has gained massive support from the countrysides and has set up eight hundred barrio organizations and revolutionary barrio committees support the armed struggle going on in the countrysides and the agrarian revolution and helped train the people for self government.

Government authorities themselves have confirmed the substantial growth of support the NPA has been receiving from a few barrios in 1969 to several hundreds today.

While NPA has lost scores of men on the field, it has apparently gained adherents in the countrysides. The areas where the NPA maintains a stronghold are the Northern Luzon, Southern Luzon, and Central Luzon and Western Visayan regions.

The number of regular fighters in the NPA since it started in 1968 has multiplied eight times its original number. The degrees of concentration in certain areas of the Northern and Central Luzon has reached the platoon and even the company level.

With this fundamental change in the organization of the NPA, the NPA has developed an effective enemy offensive. 200 enemy troops and 17 U.S. military personnel were reported killed by the end of 1969. As of 1970, the NPA has killed or wounded 600 puppet troops and punished 230 local tyrants, BSDU members, landgrabbers, and other bad elements.

With a deteriorating economy, the bankrupt puppet Marcos regime has left no alternative for the people to do but to wage a people's war to overthrow U.S. Imperialism and all its lackeys. The Philippines, because it's a semi-colonial, semi-feudal society, is agrarian in nature, therefore allowing U.S. Imperialism to dominate it. This leaves 75% of the Filipino people, peasants toiling to produce the raw material and export capital needed by U.S. Imperialism in order for it to survive. Being the most exploited and oppressed sector of society, it is no surprise that the peasantry would rabidly support the NPA and all of its activities.

While the NPA has successfully reaped victories in the provinces by the establishment of a stronger people's militia, the patriotic elements in the cities have taken to the streets to form a broad anti-imperialist front. The workers in the factories employed by capitalist companies are paid meager wages for hard labor, are become aware and cognizant of their exploitation and would gladly fight to see the end of it. The students, although a small constituent of the petty-bourgeoisie, play an important role as part of the vanguard for the cultural revolution. Both are agitators and advocates of change. The small-time businessmen, unable to compete with bigger monopoly enterprises see capitalism unable to hold out. The professionals, seeing that their careers and education do not correspond with the country's economy, much less with the need of the people, recognize the farce behind the colonial nature of Philippine society.

All these sectors fall into the fold of the national united front, the constant subject of intimidation by the puppet Marcos and his mercenary armed forces. The social, as well as the economical, contradictions of a colonialized country, heightened all the more by the bankrupt Marcos puppet regime, are too blatant to buy off, too much to conceal. These contradictions build up and leave no imperative for the people but to revolt.

Marcos has resorted to all sorts of devious means to suppress the progressive elements of society and has whipped an anti-communist witch-hunt to isolate these progressive elements. On the contrary because of his outright corruption and dog-like service to U.S. imperialism, he has isolated himself from the disenchanted masses of the Filipino people.

He has beefed up the military budget, asked for massive anti-riot equipment, military aid, and not surprisingly, military advice from his imperialist masters. This is indicative of his knowledge of the growing revolutionary movement and this last desperate move clearly shows his weak inutile nature. The counter-revolutionary forces may turn a million guns on the masses, but history is on the side of the people. The people are millions in number, and expanding the revolutionary war, they will easily crush the counter revolutionary minority.

"All reactionaries are paper tigers. In appearance the reactionaries are terrifying, but in reality they are not so powerful. From a long term point of view, it is not reactionaries but the people who are powerful." —MTT



US BASES FOR VIETNAM

In the month of May, the nation expressed extreme indignation that the country has been used as the take off point for stepped up U.S. military aggressions in Vietnam.

Fully exposed was the clear violation of a treaty between the United States government and the Philippine government concerning the activities of U.S. military bases in the country. In a treaty signed Oct. 12, 1959 between the two countries, it clearly stated that U.S. bases in the Philippines could not be used for launching military combat operations because this would not run counter to national sovereignty but also a clear violation of the UN charter.

This treaty was signed by both Charles E. Bohlen, ambassador of the U.S. and Felixberto Serrano, then Secretary of Foreign Affairs.

In these past years, the military bases have secretly been used for aggression in our courageous neighboring country, Vietnam. But only recently did full scale exposures occur.

Delegate E. Voltaire Garcia of the Constitutional Convention had in his possession written statements from members of the U.S. Armed Forces who claimed that these military bases are definitely involved to "support U.S. military activities in Indochina."

One disclosure came from a Deniel Seekins, petty officer of a patrol squadron based in Subic. In one of the statements held by Garcia, Seekins said: "In my personal experience, I have flown many air intelligence and radar surveillance missions off the coast of South Vietnam in support of the allied war efforts. All of these flights had their origin at Cubi Point naval air station at Subic Base."

The most verifying facts were presented by two U.S. sergeants who on May 18 testified at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that Clark Air Force Base and the Subic Naval Base were being used as "forward staging areas" for American aggressive forces engaged in Vietnam.

The two were Staff Sgts. Wayne Evans and Thomas Andrich, both of the 405th Aviation Maintenance Squadron stationed at Clark. Senators Benigno S. Aquino Jr. and Ramon V. Mitra presented them as witnesses to prove their charges that the U.S. was violating the RP-US Bases Agreement.

Evans and Andrich claimed to be members of the GI movement in the Philippines. They told the committee that:

1. Clark Air Base is deeply involved in the escalated U.S. operations in Vietnam with the whole 405th Squadron of F-4 Phantom fighter-bombers now actively engaged in the Vietnam conflict.

2. A whole B-57 squadron was on the flight line at Clark ready to take off and go to war as of the last time they were in that base. "To my knowledge," Evans said, "they are still there."

3. The core of the U.S. 7th fleet operations in the Tonkin Gulf, the aircraft carriers, Kitty Hawk, Coral Sea, Hancock, Midway, Constellation and Saratoga, are home-based at Subic.

4. The naval magazine in Subic "is supplying the largest ordnance in Vietnam." Evans said this magazine is "the largest outside the continental United States and this is common knowledge."

The U.S. embassy in a diplomatic note of May 13 verified the fact that Subic Base is "the principal supply base for the Seventh fleet."

"Only the mines come from stocks at Subic just as virtually all the bombs and shells used by the Navy in Indochina came from Subic."

In accordance to their masters, Foreign Secretary Romulo went into the stupid logic that this evidence still could not constitute a violation of the Treaty. In a speech on May 17th, he said that "there is no violation of any agreement just because the mines laid outside seven North Vietnamese harbors were supplied through the U.S. base at Subic." He emphasized that the "planes which dropped the mines did not come from Subic Bay but were aboard carriers in the Tonkin. It cannot therefore be said that there had been a 'direct launching' of military combat operations from Subic." (!!!)

But this stooge of U.S. imperialism thinks that the Filipino people are that stupid to accept such a statement. He does not say where do these aircraft carriers refuel but in Subic!!! He desperately hides the blatant truth that even if the airplanes took off from Tonkin Gulf, these bombs and mines that massacre civilians and denies a brave country's sovereignty still come from a stockpile in our country.

An anti-war paper written by GI's entitled "Cry Out" reported that:

"A good share of those bombs and other ammunition used against these countries is stored in the Naval Magazine at Subic Bay, the Philippines. From here it is loaded onto the six aircraft attack carriers who regularly come into Subic for re-supply from their station in the Tonkin Gulf. The cruisers and guided missile destroyers that are shelling North Vietnam also come into Subic regularly for repairs and re-supply. Some of the ordnance stored at Subic is brought in truck convoys to Clark where it is loaded onto planes and sent into Thailand."

EXPOSE AND OPPOSE THE USE AND PRESENCE OF MILITARY BASES IN OUR COUNTRY!!!

SUPPORT THE VIETNAMESE 7 POINT PEACE PLAN!!!
MAKIBAKA HUWAG MATAKOT!!!

REPEAL THE ANTI-SUBVERSION LAW

KALAYAAN page 5

Manila Times
March 14, 1972

Dear Editor:

We, the undersigned parents, wives, husbands, children and relatives of the political detainees and the 63 subversion respondents charged under Republic Act No. 1700 by the Marcos administration hereby declare our solidarity with our children, husbands and wives and with the just cause for which they are now risking their lives and liberties.

We believe that they are the victims of a monstrous machination of the administration that is sanctioned by an oppressive framework of laws which serve the interests of the ruling few in the exploitation of the Filipino masses.

We protest the trial by publicity that has surrounded their case, where slander and innuendo from an irresponsible administration have virtually led to a condemnation before trial.

We call upon all progressive sectors of the Filipino nation to make their collective voice heard in denouncing this travesty of justice and in resisting the gradual erosion of the people's civil liberties.

We appeal to our fellow citizens in supporting the nationwide movement for the immediate repeal of the Anti-Subversion Law and the immediate release of all political prisoners unjustly detained under this law and Proclamation 951.

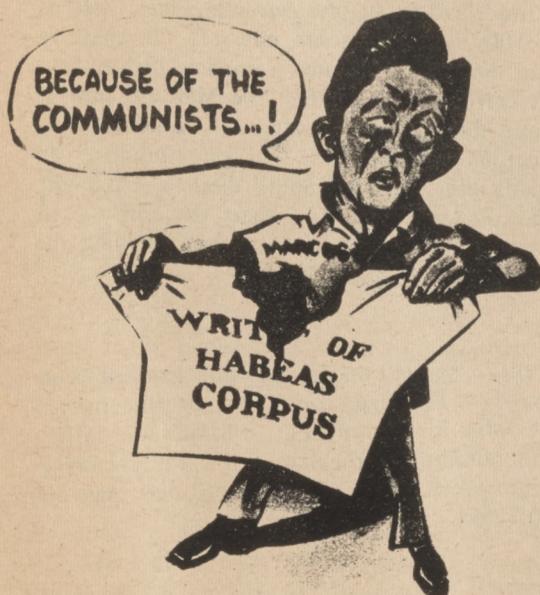
JOSEFINA TAYAG, VICKY OLIVAR, GEORGE OLIVAR, JR., ALOMA MONTE DE LOS REYES, FELICIDAD BULAANG FELIPE, VICENTE CLEMENTE SR., MARIA CLEMENTE, ENRIQUE RIBAS JR., ROMEO LLORCA, OSCAR RIBAS, JR., NEELIN STA. ROMANA, DR. and MRS. PEDRO STA. ROMANA, NENI STA. ROMANA, CHONA STA. ROMANA, PAT DIMAGIBA and BERT MERCADO, and relatives of the 63 subversion respondents.

REPEAL THE ANTI-SUBVERSION LAW!!! (Republic Act No. 1700)

What is this law? Let us examine some of the silly provisions of this law, the Anti-Subversion Law or Republic Act No. 1700. An Act to Outlaw the Communist Party of the Philippines and Similar Associations, Penalizing Membership Therein, and for Other Purposes.

NOTE: Any nationalist, militant and progressive associations and movements are at the mercy of this provision and can be regarded as subversive whenever the subservient puppets of alien imperialism would dictate them to be. The title of the law is unconstitutional. It is not so clear. It is vague and covers more than one subject. It can easily make harassment to any nationalist organizations in the vanguard of militancy against the establishment and world imperialism.

Whereas, the Communist Party of the Philippines, although purportedly a political party, is in fact an organized conspiracy to overthrow the government of the Republic of the Philippines not only by force and violence but also by deceit, subversion, and other illegal means, for purpose of establishing in the Philippines a totalitarian regime subject to alien domination and control.



NOTE: In all the cases of subversion filed against political prisoners eleven years ago in the case of Castro Alejandrino and now Nilo Tayag, Leoncio Co, Luzvimindo, Gary Olivar, Victor Felipe, Rodolfo del Rosario, Prof. Angelo de los Reyes, Teresito Sison, Ericson Baculinao, Chito Sta. Romana, Sixto Carlos Jr. and many others, not even a single piece of paper or document had been presented by the military purporting to establish that these so-called subversive Filipinos are tools, agents, instruments of an alien communist. Does this law refer to domination and control of Soviet Russia or the People's Republic of China under Mao Tse-tung's leadership? But Russia and Red China today are fighting each other. How can there be a conspiracy? The People's Republic of China is now a member of the United Nations and according to the Foreign Secretary Carlos P. Romulo, our government is establishing diplomatic ties with socialist and communist countries including Soviet Russia and the People's Republic of China.



The provision of the law therefore is antagonistic and contradictory to the world foreign relation development. Why must our government establish diplomatic ties with these countries when our government is saying that these foreign countries are subverting the Republic of the Philippines? Why? What conspiracy had been established by our government between these communist countries and the local communist? Is it the ideologies of Karl Marx, Lenin and that of Mao Tse-tung? But how can you stop an idea? Ideologies of different progressive writers are being read all over the world. In all bookstores in Manila, progressive books of world economic philosophers are being sold. How can we be so naive, so narrow-minded, so hypocritical about all these things? And what about Christianity, the Western ideas and other capitalist-imperialist theories? Are these not alien theories as far as we are concerned? Even the military thru its Department of Public Information says that there are features of Maoism which are adaptable to Philippine conditions.

Whereas, the continued existence and activities of the Communist Party of the Philippines constitutes a clear, present and grave danger to the security of the Philippines.

NOTE: Since there is no conspiracy between Filipino communists and the U.S.S.R. and the People's Republic of China to control our Republic as seen in the present light of world development, what then constitute clear, present and grave danger to the security of the Philippines?

On the other hand, what is clear, present and grave danger to the security of the Philippines as well as to our political, economic, social and cultural condition are the presence of alien imperialism headed by their master, the U.S. imperialism in connivance and in cahoots with the local Kuomintang Chinese under the graft-ridden government of Chiang Kai-shek, the Japanese militarist and the hacenderos and crooked local politicians. These elements constitute not only clear, present and grave danger to the Filipinos but serious threat on our health and our future. The presence of the so many continuing military bases of the U.S. imperialism are magnets of our destruction if and when the Big Powers will clash. Who is then now the subversives in the light of the objective conditions?

Whereas, on the face of the organized, systematic and persistent subversion, national in scope but international in direction posed by the Communist Party of the Philippines and its activities, there is urgent need for special legislation to cope with this continuing menace to the freedom and security of the country. Now therefore be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives in the Philippines in Congress assembled:

Section 1. This act shall be known as Anti-Subversion Act.

Section 2. The Congress hereby declares the Communist Party of the Philippines to be an organized conspiracy to overthrow the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, establish a totalitarian regime and place the government under the control and domination of alien power. The said party and any other organization having the same purpose and their successors are hereby declared illegal and outlawed.

Approved June 20, 1957.

Penalty for violation of this law is Life to Death.

NOTE: Again, the subversion that this law is saying to be international in direction is indefinite, vague, faceless, nameless, unknown and unpointed for the last fifteen (15) years since the approval of this law in June 20, 1957. Who is controlling and directing the so-called communist party in the Philippines? Please name one communist country. Is it Soviet Russia or Red China? A big nonsense.

Meanwhile, the U.S. imperialist exploiters through the U.S. imperialist controlled and dominated government, interlocked with the Taiwan government, Japanese militarist and the Filipino local puppets, feudal lords and bureaucrat capitalists are the systematically organized subversives subverting the interest of the masses of our country, persistent in their greed and criminal in their activities in committing the subversion acts against our imperiled people. Are the nationalist elements of our country subversives? Are the critics and progressive sectors of our society young and old alike constituting a clear, present and grave danger to the security of the Philippines or is it those alien imperialists and their local puppets that are endangering our country for they in the past have systematically looted the wealth of our impoverished country until today. And what about the Philippine Statehood, USA? This is an association whose fake leadership headed by ex-congressman Rufino D. Antonio would want this Republic to be controlled by the imperialist government of the United States business exploiters and criminals.

People of the Philippines, let us not fool ourselves anymore. Let us awake to face these realities. This law is being used by the "tutus" of U.S. imperialism to terrorize, subdue, abridge the militant nationalist and other progressive elements in our country today. This law according to Judge Simeon Ferrer of Tarlac is unconstitutional. It is an instrument of oppression and subjugation said Senators Laurel, Osmena and Diokno. It has brought about the incarceration of the youth, of the militants. Some were driven to the hills. Others are now languishing at the PC Stockade. The critics are threatened. The Sword of Damocles still hangs over their heads. As a whole, the country is in grief of being under the rule of the military thru the dictates of the U.S. imperialism. This law is very bad. We must do something or cower in fear.

People of the Philippines unite!
Free the political prisoners!
Repeal the Anti-Subversion Law!

February 1972

japanese imperialism

in mindanao

by Vern McCarty

MINDANAO, Philippines—The big news recently in the Philippines is the "stone age" Tasaday people on Mindanao. According to anthropologists, they are the only people ever discovered who still actually live in caves. For over 1,000 years they have depended for their survival on the dense rain forests that protect them from "civilization."

But like other tribes discovered in the Philippines in the past generation, the Tasadays are doomed to extinction. They are basically a food-gathering people, dependent upon the vines and trees of the high altitude jungles. And the trees and vines are soon to disappear as profit-hungry loggers crash farther into the jungle with their chain saws and tractors. In the past 25 years the Philippine islands have been virtually stripped of their virgin or "old growth" timber, resulting in widespread floods and erosion. Some years ago, Philippine forests represented one of the largest stands of tropical hardwoods in the world.

The pattern for this destruction was set after World War II when the timber export industry in the Philippines came out of a period of stagnation. Americans financed this big expansion, and the first significant shipments of logs and timber went to the United States. In the U.S. the logs were sliced or ground to a pulp, mixed with synthetic bonding agents and pressed into plywood, some of which was then imported back into the Philippines. So the islands' manufacturing did not grow to include these processes. And even most of the sawmills and logging operations were dependent on American surplus equipment, like portable sawmills and tractors. The Philippines was never allowed to develop an industry to match its tremendous wealth of timber.

When the Philippines was an American colony, U.S. administrators made efforts to protect the long term value of the islands' great timber reserve. According to Philippine law, most large forest areas (95%) are publicly owned.

Any businessman who wants to cut down Philippine timber must apply for a timber concession from the Philippine government. The government takes a percentage of the company's net profit as taxes to be used for the public welfare. This is a good theory but the laws have never been enforced.

The Philippines is under pressure to export large amounts of unprocessed timber because her faltering economy needs immediate dollar earning exports. At present the Philippine foreign debt, owed mostly to groups like the IMF and the World Bank, totals more than 2.1 billion dollars. The scheduled payment on this debt for 1972 comes to more than half the Philippine gross national budget. With this kind of debt it is understandable that the government would encourage the export of unprocessed timber, which in the first half of 1970 was the country's top dollar earner.

But by now it is the Japanese business tycoons who reap the most benefits from this policy. Since the Korean War, when the Japanese used Philippine logs to carry out contracts for the U.S. military in Korea, the Japanese have taken advantage of the patterns set by American financiers. The booming Japanese wood industry is developing huge markets in America, Europe and around the world. "The Story of Japanese Plywood," a beautiful purple booklet recently put out by Japanese plywood manufacturers, discretely acknowledges the Philippines as its source of raw materials. Since Japan's forest reserves are extremely limited and countries like the U.S. and Canada are restricting log exports, Japan's wood industry relies on a huge volume of Philippine Mahogany, a family of tropical hardwoods found in the Philippines and in Indonesia. But the emphasis of the pamphlet is on the finished product—exquisite pianos, cabinets, paneling and other wood products made in Japan.

And the Philippine forests are being rapidly destroyed. Even now it would take at least 100 years of uninterrupted growth for Philippine timber stands to return to their 1953 levels. And such growth is unlikely, since cutting is apt to continue and the problems of erosion increase. With a land area only, 1/30 that of the U.S., the Philippines have been the world's top exporters of logs for the past four years.

But a young businessman, rumored to be a millionaire, was pessimistic about future timber operations in the Philippines. "The tension with the Muslims is becoming worse," he said. "They make trouble on our concessions and try to steal the timber at night. Always run back to their clan for protection. My brother was shot by them a few years back so I don't take any chances now." The Muslims, the country's largest ethnic minority, consider themselves to have been cheated by the Christian businessmen who log and mine the mountains of Mindanao.

In the past few years many Philippine citizens and journalists have raised serious questions about the destruction of the vast forest reserves. In addition to their concern for such tribal groups as the Tasadays, Filipinos are developing a new interest in ecology. They can see that the government has not effectively protected their natural resources. At a seminar not long ago, a young Filipino summed up the future he saw for the Tasaday's forest home. "Our vast timber and mineral resources are being extracted at a breakneck rate with foreigners getting most of the benefits and our own people getting little if anything from it. Mindanao will look like a desert in 20 years unless some things change."

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"Japan is a great nation. It will certainly not allow U.S. imperialism to ride roughshod over it for long." — Mao Tse-Tung

G.I. CENTER ATTACKED

NEW ATTACKS

The GI Center serving the Clark Air Force Base community has been raided twice in the past six weeks in an obvious attempt by base officials and the Philippine Constabulary to close it down. The Center, in operation since last October, provides legal assistance, counseling, literature, contacts with friendly Filipino and American civilians, and a focus for GI organizing, including the publication of CRY OUT by military personnel. The Center is a base for NLG work at Clark.

The first raid came March 15, just a few days before Lana's departure. Armed Forces Police, Philippine Constabulary carrying M16s, and a local judge with a search warrant, had the owner of the Center let them in at a time when no one was home. They turned the place upside down, seized some literature and medicine which they later claimed was narcotics, and left. No one at the Center was ever contacted concerning this raid, and our information about it came only from neighbors, newspaper reports and the mess left behind.

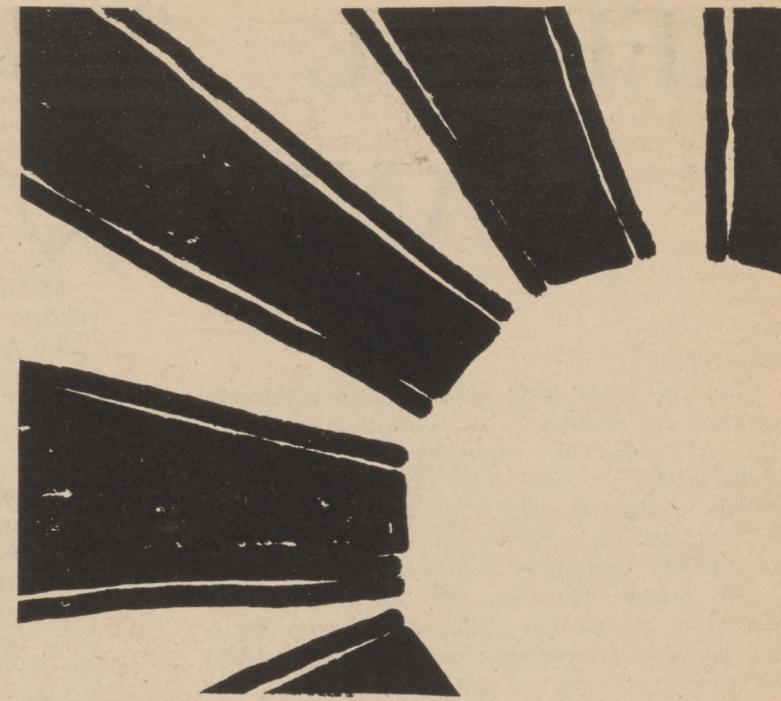
Nothing new happened until April 20, when the MANILA CHRONICLE and the PHILIPPINE FLYER (published by the USAF) again carried articles about the raid. The CHRONICLE article, saying that the raid had occurred April 19, stated that narcotics and subversive literature had been seized, that the Center was a hideout for Filipino subversives, and that Clark officials had announced that "several persons would be arrested shortly." The article also stated that the Center was run by the National Lawyers Guild, publishers of CRY OUT and SEASICK (the Subic GI paper). The FLYER article added the name of all five NLG project members and all of the other civilians who have related to the center and warned that base intelligence has the names of all the GIs who frequent the place.

The second raid came Monday night, April 24. This time over 20 AFPs and PCs, with automatic weapons but without a warrant or a judge, raided the Center, ostensibly searching for an NLG client who had allegedly escaped from the base jail two days earlier. Of course, they looked for him very thoroughly—in desk and dresser drawers and between the pages of books and newspapers. They returned a few hours later and took one of the three civilians who had been present during the raid for questioning. They said the FBI wanted the man, but then displayed a photograph which was obviously someone else. Our brother was released. Their next move is unknown....

THE AIR WAR

The repressive attacks against us make sense when you consider the crucial role being played by the bases here in the American air offensive against the people of Indochina. Subic is presently the most important base supporting the war effort. It is the Asian headquarters of the Seventh Fleet, half of whose 100 major ships are now off the coast of Vietnam. This figure includes a wartime high of four aircraft carriers, with a fifth, the Midway, now at Subic and about to join the others at Yankee Station. Each carrier launches some 70 fighter-bombers on daily raids over North and South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. In addition to the carriers, there are at least two heavy cruisers and 15 destroyers shelling the coast and launching missile attacks.

An entire fighter-bomber squadron has just been transferred to Da Nang from Clark. Because the air strip at Subic is not sufficient to handle the traffic, much ammunition for the Seventh Fleet is now being flown into Clark and then transferred over land 50 miles to Subic.



IMPERIALISM

AND

DOPE



Mayor Nemesio Yabut's knowledge of the drug problem seems to go only as deep as his hair roots. Imagining that dope pushers could be isolated by penalizing long-haired persons with fines and imprisonment, Yabut and the overzealous municipal council approved the long hair ban. Now the ordinance has been suspended. But with or without implementation, the long hair ban can never solve the drug problem in Makati or elsewhere in the Philippines. For this newest affliction which grips both the affluent in Forbes Park and the poor in Tondo has its roots in the basic structure of Philippine society.

U.S. Drug Problem

It is admitted that drug addiction has menaced the whole world for a long time. Yet the United States now holds the highest record in drug addiction. The U.S. government reports that "heroin is a major killer of young people between 18 and 35, outpacing death from accidents, suicides, or cancer. Addiction is also a major cause of crime with addicts spending more than \$15 million a day, half of this coming from 55% of crime in the cities."

The drug problem in the U.S., which has ballooned to undefined proportions, is not surprising, considering the fact that aside from the age-old international trade in opium, heroin addiction is directly related to the U.S. aggressive war in Indochina.

The "Fertile Triangle"

Contrary to most official U.S. claims that the primary source of illicit opium is the Middle East, the UN Commission on Drugs and Narcotics states that 80% of the world's opium comes from the "Fertile Triangle" in Southeast Asia. The Fertile Triangle is a region covering northwestern Burma, northern Thailand and Laos. By extending the war into Laos, President Nixon opened the world to nearly half of the world's supply of narcotics.

The main growers of poppy (the plant from which opium is extracted) are the Meo tribespeople who inhabit the region. They sell the opium to local smugglers and get as much as \$50 per kilo. In Saigon, the kilo costs \$200 and in San Francisco, \$2,000.

From Laos, the opium and heroin are brought to Saigon where they are sold directly to U.S. troops or distributed to U.S. bases. Drug addiction among American GIs is so rampant that one enlisted man from New York said: "You can salute an officer with your right hand and take a 'hit' (of heroin) with your left."

The opium web has been so complex that it has entangled governments beyond the troubled nations of Indochina. Because of the U.S. network of military bases in Southeast Asia, the Philippines is now a part of the opium network.

Smuggling Routes

From the Fertile Triangle, there are three major networks of smuggled opium. Some of the opium from Burma and northern Thailand moves into Bangkok, then to Singapore and Hongkong, and either directly or through Taiwan, to the U.S. The main route is from Burma or Laos to Saigon or to ocean drops in the Gulf of Siam; then it goes either through the Middle East and Mrsaville to the U.S. or through Hongkong and Singapore to the West Coast. The final route runs directly from outposts held by Nationalist Chinese troops in Thailand to Taiwan and then to the U.S.

Along the three major routes are nomadic Nationalist Chinese or Kuomintang (KMT) patrol troops which control major part of the opium flowing out of Burma and Thailand. They are still supported by the ruling KMT in Taiwan and they maintain themselves by exacting tribute payments from the entrepreneurs of opium. In addition, these troops supplement their income by running "intelligence operations" into the People's Republic of China and organizing anti-government guerrillas in Burma for the U.S.

The CIA's Role

The Taiwan government also maintains an information office in Thailand and accompanies the KMT troops in trying to spread propaganda among the peasants of Yunnan province. All these activities are coordinated by the CIA.

Likewise, the Thai government tolerates the KMT to help them in counterinsurgency efforts against their own hill tribespeople. Besides, the second highest man in Thailand before the coups, the Minister of Interior, Gen. Prapsas Charusathira, benefits from the Border Patrol Police (BPP) which in turn receives its pay-off from the KMT.

Gen. Rathikoune, commander of the CIA-backed Royal Lao Government Army and Air Force said that the opium trade was "not bad for Laos." He cited opium trade as the source of cash for the Meo hilltribes and capital for the enterprises of the Lao elite (government officials). The truth, however, is that the Meo tribes merely are being used by the CIA as a counterinsurgency weapon against Pathet Lao guerrillas. In being used by the CIA as a pawn, the Meo army has been reduced from 400,000 to 200,000, destroying the Meo tribe as a people.

Drugs in Tondo

Recently, the House of Representatives came out with the statement that the U.S. military bases are the main sources of drugs in the Philippines. Since only marijuana is grown locally, it is but logical to conclude that addictive drugs must have come from the international opium trade fostered by the United States.

According to the National Bureau of Investigation, most victims of drug abuse come from the poorer areas of Tondo, Paco, Malabon and Kalookan. Official figures are not available, but it is estimated that many Tondo children from ten to thirteen years of age are taking hallucinogens like marijuana, while teenagers of fourteen and fifteen are already addicted to opium and heroin.

Addict's Testimony

A former drug addict in Asuncion, Tondo, has revealed how drugs circulate in the area. The addicts receive their supply from small pushers like goons and policemen who in turn get the dope from the Chinese Kuomintang. The demand for drugs by the local KMT is met by the smugglers operating within and around the U.S. military bases.

Asked why there has been no crackdown against dope pushers in Tondo, the interviewee disclosed that aside from being policemen themselves, the pushers are protected by capitalists in high government offices. In fact, he mentioned the son of a defeated congressional candidate in Manila as one of the dope pushers in Tondo.

The opium trade in Tondo exists because of the considerably high profit derived from it, in spite of the low economic level of the families. This is no phenomenon because dope-pushing is inseparable from political oppression. An addicted individual concentrates on and limits his mental and physical efforts to satisfying his need for drugs, thereby rendering him incapable of looking beyond himself. He is not given the chance to examine the contradictions in society; that the interest of the U.S. imperialists, in collaboration with the local ruling classes, dominate those of the Filipino masses. He is thus denied of a meaningful role in changing existing society.

THE PILIPINO IMMIGRANT ...

Throughout the 19th century, beginning from around 1790 to 1860, manufacturing and industrialization proceeded rapidly in the Northeastern United States. It was the labor of "immigrants" that made possible the growth of the factory system on a larger scale, supplementing the influx of Negroes migrating from the South. By 1860, 21% of the population of both Massachusetts and Rhode Island was of foreign birth. These immigrants were exploited in the work process: long hours from 5 AM to 7:30 PM, holding back of worker's pay, low wages and labor-intensive methods such as speed-ups, overtime, etc.

With the constant inpouring of immigrants, the domestic market grew. This favored mass production through the use of power driven machinery. But apart from the mass consumption of goods, immigrants contributed *primarily* in supplying an endless supply of cheap labor. Northern manufacturers during the Civil War had pushed through Congress a contract immigration law which enabled them to send agents abroad to import laborers, under contract, to work in the mills here with their wages held back until their ship passage was paid for. This importation of cheap labor cut production costs and multiplied capitalist profit in the United States.

On the West Coast, employers helped to solve their labor problem by importing Chinese coolies, Japanese, Filipinos to work in the sugar, pineapple and grape plantations in Hawaii, California, etc. In Texas, Mexicans answered the need for cheap labor.

This system of using immigrants to supply the huge demand for cheap labor generated by the capitalist industrializing economy of the U.S. was supported by a pattern of racial discrimination, prejudice and racist notions of "inferiority" of non-white immigrants. Riots and lynchings of Chinese, Japanese and Filipino immigrants occurred in the West Coast throughout the first four decades of Asian presence in this country, notably the Watsonville Riot in January 1930 against Filipinos.

Of course there was racist pressure from American "labor" organizations such as AFL, which represented the relatively most secure workers known as the "labor aristocracy," voicing ideas such as "racial purity" and arguing that Pilipinos... as well as other Asian immigrants... "has acted like a cancer in American private and public life, destroying American ideals and preventing the development of a nation based on racial unity." (Agoncillo and Guerrero, *History of the Filipino People*, p. 388.)

However, although this crude manifestation of racism and "white supremacy" was and still is the most obvious and easiest to detect, it is only the "tip of the iceberg" and does not explain to us the root causes of racism. Racial antagonism is ultimately rooted in capitalism. A system which keeps the vast majority of the people pitted against each other in a vicious competitive struggle in order to attain some meager form of "security." While their collective and exploited labor produces all the wealth of the society and all the profits for the monopoly capitalist class... a small and unproductive minority of the total population. Capitalism is a regime of racial antagonisms with different racial and ethnic groups situated in a competitive relation of inequality, one above the other. This then is the fundamental relationship from which racist and social ideas stem from.

The colonization of the Philippines by U.S. monopoly capitalism at the turn of the century fitted perfectly into the scheme of old-style imperialism obtaining a cheap source of raw materials and an easy market for expensive commodities. Equally important, this colonization allowed for the influx of cheap Pilipino labor to help fill the need for unskilled farm labor in Hawaii and the West Coast: 400 Pilipinos a year before 1919 and an average of 5,000 Pilipino immigrants a year by the late 1920's. The increase was partly due to the fact that while other Asian immigration was curtailed by the Immigration Act of 1924, the Philippines, being a colony of the U.S. was exempted from the operation of the "exclusion act." Another major reason also was the more effective ideological brainwashing which the U.S. public school system had effected in the Philippines.



THE "COLONIALIZED" EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN THE PHILIPPINES ENCOURAGES THE MASS EMIGRATION OF COLLEGE EDUCATED PILIPINOS TO THE U.S.

We have stated in our article in the last issue the three principal reasons for the "drain" of manpower from the Philippines to the U.S. Let us take, first, the nature of the educational system in the Philippines which is based on the principle of free and universal public education instituted by the U.S. colonial regime. Such an educational system is geared to the needs of profit-oriented economy based on wage-slavery, competition, struggle for individual success in status and wealth, because a degree or college diploma signifies prestige and status based on employment in white-collar jobs especially in the huge government bureaucracy, most Filipinos place great importance on college education. As of 1966, there were 30,000 students at the State University and 346,081 enrolled in 434 private colleges and universities.

The existence of a large-profit-motivated private school system in the Philippines indicates a lack of control and overall planning by the government in the quality of education. The planning of educated manpower-supply and the direction of priorities in terms of the training of personnel to match the requirements of an agricultural economy that should be gradually industrializing. The commercially operated private universities in Manila (with average enrollment of 25,000 to 40,000 per university) are all stock companies or family enterprises managed as lucrative businesses returning a "profit" to its owners. While there is nominal adherence to the standards set by the Department of Education these "diploma

mills" by and large, impose enormous tuition fees (usually padded) on students, exploit teachers as part-time lecturers paid on piece-meal basis, and deprive both students and teachers of the necessary equipments, materials and incentives to pursue their studies and research. The Church-owned universities multiply their profits because of tax exemptions and other privileges. To succeed as a profitable enterprise, these universities naturally must turn out huge numbers of "graduates." Indeed, they have produced a vast number of lower- and intermediate-level trained people, such as accountants, dentists, pharmacists and teachers. Ignoring the rational use of limited material resources of their institutions, the private school system has flooded the job market with semi-skilled and semi-competent graduates who settle for low-paying jobs or apply for immigration to other countries in the belief that their college credentials will earn better "rewards" outside the Philippines.

From the data gathered by U.S. researchers published in the government *Area Handbook for the Philippines* (1969), the following facts emerge: There is an excess of "qualified" manpower in the fields of education, commerce and liberal arts, accounting for 79% of all college graduates between 1947 and 1959. Medical personnel, lawyers and other professional people (identified with the traditionally prestigious professions) could not be accommodated within the semi-feudal and semi-colonial economy of the Philippines, dominated by U.S. corporations concerned with mineral-extractions, assembly-plants, marketing services... in short, a neo-colonial economy.

Although the backward economy does not create a great demand for scientific and technical personnel,

(continued)

THE PILIPINO EXPLOITED!

even so, there are fewer than 6% of college students who enter these fields of study. In addition, the *Area Handbook* comments: "Partly as a result of an educational system not geared to the needs of the economy and partly because of diminishing social mobility, only 17% of college graduates are able to find employment commensurate with their academic degrees." Thus, even CIA-paid researchers admit the discrepancy between the economic base and the educational superstructure of the Philippines, aggravating the already serious unemployment problem and leading to the so-called "brain-drain."

What is the actual situation? Annual requirements for architects, engineers, surveyors, technicians, draftsmen and related semi-professional workers are estimated at between 25,000 and 40,000. Whereas fewer than 10,000 persons a year enter these professions. There is an acute shortage of skilled laborers, especially mechanics, machinists, metalworkers and workers in the building trades. Even as early as 1963, there was a demand for 70,000 mechanics and metal workers: 58,000 skilled laborers in the building trades; and 180,000 carpenters, cabinet-makers and other skilled woodworkers. During the same year, however, there were fewer than 50,000 students of these trades enrolled in all vocational schools and fewer than 5,000 registered apprentices in establishments employing such workers.

hospitals and medical institutions in this country remain critically understaffed and the staff remains underpaid. Realizing this, the U.S. government has implemented the Foreign Exchange Visitors Program whereby Pilipino doctors and nurses can undergo "training" in the U.S. requiring them to return to the Philippines for two years before they are again eligible to return to the U.S. on an immigrant visa. What this program provides in fact is a convenient and cheap source of foreign medical personnel for staffing the public medical institutions of the U.S. without ever getting down to the root causes of the inadequate medical services in this country.

On the Pilipino side, what this arrangement often does is bring out the worst of the "mercenary" attitudes engendered in the colonial education system back in the Philippines by subtly reinforcing the notion that a "successful" profession is determined by the amount of material rewards that can be accumulated in terms of cars and other consumer items available here in the U.S. This attitude encourages Pilipino doctors and nurses to often ignore their discriminated positions in relationship to American doctors and nurses. At the same time it prevents them from taking a principled stand against the inadequate medical facilities and poor care given the patients; the unwholesome working conditions and poor pay provided the medical and hospital staff;

Despite the growth of the Philippine gross national product (GNP) in 1968 of the 6.3% (from government statistics) the country maintains one of the lowest per capita income in the world today... \$50 a year (about 300 pesos). While at the same time, the Philippine society maintains one of the world's highest population growth rates (3.4% to 3.8%) with skyrocketing inflation in the daily costs of living.

SINCE IT IS U.S. IMPERIALISM WHICH CREATED AND PROFITS THE MOST FROM THE PRESENT NEO-COLONIAL ECONOMY OF THE PHILIPPINES, IT IS CORRECT TO SAY THAT U.S. IMPERIALISM IS PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT IN THE PHILIPPINE COUNTRYSIDE AS WELL AS THE CITIES.

Since U.S. multi-national corporations engage in chiefly extractive industries (mining), banking and insurance, selective food processing (for export back to America i.e. pineapple) and the import-export business with emphasis on the sale of imported manufactured products from the U.S. . . . the U.S. ruling class is not at all interested in assisting the all-around industrialization of the Philippine economy to match the rich human and material resources of the country. On the contrary, U.S.

Higher prices More rice
or rice ask retailers
face raps
15 are killed
38 killed candidate
Cotabato
3 others
shot dead
3 more slain
in Cotabato
also continued yesterday in
offices and other outlets in
Manila (TIMEphoto)

3 lines
COTABATO CITY
30 stores
distributed
38 killed candidate
Cotabato
battles
shot dead
3 others
in Cotabato
3 more slain
in Cotabato
also continued yesterday in
offices and other outlets in
Manila (TIMEphoto)

3 lines
COTABATO CITY
30 stores
distributed
38 killed candidate
Cotabato
battles
shot dead
3 others
in Cotabato
3 more slain
in Cotabato
also continued yesterday in
offices and other outlets in
Manila (TIMEphoto)

Violence hit at CC
GOONS ATT
YOUTHS; 3 D
NBI, CIS to crush
Cotabato 'Mafia'
Floods Ebb, Prices Rise
Hagony Under Water
Polls to be deferred?
Take care: Sore eyes
PAYDAY
Holdup
keep

In the fields of engineering and construction alone, during 1967 there was a demand for 28,300 trained workers, but the total number of persons entering these fields after completing their prescribed apprenticeship or their vocational school program was only 7,700.

Because of the colonial ideology implanted into the system by Spain for 3 centuries and U.S. imperialism for 50 years, the cultural value of emphasizing "prestigious" professions like medicine, law, government service and teaching has become a strong influence on the status-oriented minds of the college students. Moreover, because of the semi-feudal, backward economy of the country, many highly-trained engineers, chemists, technicians feel they have no alternative in the face of soaring food prices and skyrocketing costs of living than to look for job opportunities outside the country.

IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, PILIPINO MEDICAL PERSONNEL IN AMERICA ARE DISPLACED VICTIMS OF U.S. MONOPOLY CAPITALISM

In the case of many Pilipino doctors and nurses the situation is aggravated further because they are dissatisfied with the meager salaries provided by the government hospitals and medical facilities and the lack of any realistic opportunities of viable practice in the countryside where the need for good medical care is the greatest, but where the feudal oligarchy continues to oppress and exploit 80% of the Pilipino people with the active connivance of the corrupt government in Manila.

In the U.S. there is a shortage of American doctors and nurses due primarily to the artificial competitive standards imposed by the monopolized fraternity of rich doctors . . . the AMA . . . for the purpose of "protecting the profession from overcrowding" and more important, to continue to assure handsome fees for private medical practice. Meanwhile the public

and the racism and general prejudice surrounding Pilipinos as well as other non-white hospital staff.

The Pilipinos must begin to understand that despite some of the illusions entertained by many recent immigrant Pilipino medical professionals to America, our people are by and large being used as mere pawns in a very large and profitable business.

THE "ROOT" CAUSE OF PILIPINO IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA CAN BE FOUND IN THE FACT THAT THE PHILIPPINES IS A NEO-COLONIAL COUNTRY.

Back in the Philippines up until the present, the dominant agricultural sector of the national economy is characterized by backward feudal social relations. There has been no fundamental social change for the better in the countryside, in fact there has been a rising rate of tenancy among small farmers from 1902 up to 1960 only increasing further the difference of income between the urban worker and the majority of the peasantry. The basic lopsided economic development in the semi-feudal and semi-colonial condition of the Philippines is reflected in the wide gap which exists on the one hand between the wealthy few, composed of the old oligarchic landlord families, the comprador capitalists and bureaucrat-capitalists and the other hand, the vast majority of the Pilipino people who are poor peasants.

Of the 38 million Pilipinos in 1970, 78.12% occupy the level of poverty with a yearly income of 2,000. The super-poor with an income of under one thousand pesos comprise 29.3% of the population. The middle class which earns between 5,000 and 2,000 pesos annually, constitute only 19.9%. The rich who earn over 25,000 a year constitute .09% of the population and the super-rich, earning over 100,000 pesos, include only .01% of the Philippines (Figures from *Philippine Free Press*, August 29, 1970).

imperialism through its huge capitalist investments, its control of loans to the bankrupt Manila government and its undisguised interference in national economic development policies, forces the Philippines to remain a backward agrarian and poor country. In the provinces the feudal oppression of the peasants by the landlord class along with primitive and subsistence farming methods prevents the release of the creative energies of the majority of Pilipino people in developing the vast agricultural potential of the country. It is impossible for the Philippines to industrialize unless the productivity of the agricultural sector of the economy is greatly expanded. Since it is U.S. imperialism which created and profits the most from the present neo-colonial economy of the Philippines, it is *correct* to say that U.S. imperialism is *primarily* responsible for the unemployment and underemployment in the Philippine countryside as well as in the cities. The feudal structure dominating agriculture and the absence of any significant national investments in basic and heavy industries will surely keep unemployment high. This sad state of affairs will continue to assure difficulty to technically trained and other highly-educated Pilipinos in their attempt to practice their skills in their own homeland for the benefit of the nation. Neo-colonialism will continue to encourage massive immigration!!

We have already cited in our previous issue the statistics of over one million people with college degrees in the Phillipines of which only 610,000 were employed. Within the next five years, college graduates may double at least, whereas job opportunities are bound to decline.

Here is a conservative estimate of the unemployment and underemployment situation in the Philippines: the International Labor Office

(continued on p. 12)

A HISTORICAL PILIPINO VICTORY!

(In our previous issue, KALAYAAN published an article on the union organizing efforts of workers from California Blue Shield, a statewide health insurance company that provides packaged medical plans to federal and corporation employees. KALAYAAN presented the need for a union to help and to protect CBS workers, most of whom are Pilipinos, from discrimination, unjust hiring and promotion policies, and oppressive working conditions, among many reasons. There has been a concerted effort to reach out to Pilipino workers and to expose them to the true state of affairs at California Blue Shield and the bright prospect of a worker's union.

The following article documents the efforts put into this struggle and the analysis of the historic battle of CBS management actively trying to foment anti-union feelings versus the workers uniting with their fellow workers to ultimate victory.—Ed.)

MANAGEMENT VS. EMPLOYEES

Since the beginning of the union organizing under the Office and Professional Employees Union (OPEIU), the CBS management clearly showed its opposition to a union representing its workers. It had been evident that a union becomes a viable threat to the management whose policies and actions are subject to scrutiny. It is also a fundamental truth that this union's interests for the workers are different from the management's interests for themselves.

As the pace accelerated, the management harnessed its resources in its union-busting attempt. They used Unit Heads or women employees as spokesmen for management's position. News travelled down the grapevine through these middlemen elements and there were small-group personnel meetings held to "discuss" management's views. *Paton's Place*, Blue Shield employees' prolific underground newsletter, reported that this move was a losing proposition for the unit heads: "If you do as the management says, you lose face among the people in your units. But if you do not comply, you may not get that fat raise you were expecting." As a result, some unit heads simply refused to follow management.

The CBS management's offensive took the road of providing "fringe benefits" such as a dental plan, free dinner-dances at SF Hilton, liberalization of man-hours (the workers at 475 were allowed to leave 15 minutes early on Fridays), as well as rapport with workers through a complaint system, swift action on promotion-transfer requests, an employee claims consultant, etc. In fact, managers were virtually ordered to be chummy with the CBS employees.

And to top it all, even Thomas C. Paton, CBS president, issued memos to workers about union election matters, calling workers as chummy "dear fellow employee."

ANTI-UNION LIES

But the union-busting techniques of CBS management included some misleading statements about OPEIU that tended to confuse the issues and to divide the workers.

"If the union wins, there will probably be a strike." This threat can indeed be very intimidating for a typical Pilipino wage-earner with a \$80-90 weekly take-home pay. In answer, the union countered that there must be a secret ballot and a majority yes-vote in order to call for a strike. Besides, in OPEIU's experience, there has seldom been a need to call for a strike vote in its collective bargaining efforts.

CBS management also passed the word around that the OPEIU can raise the dues anytime the union wishes; that there is a \$50.00 initiation fee and retroactive dues if the union wins; that CBS workers will be fined for not attending union meetings; and that OPEIU does not have to tell the truth but certainly Blue Shield does. These allegations were dealt with squarely by the CBS union organizers during the hectic propaganda war that had ensued as June 1, the date of the election, approached.

PILIPINOS AT BLUE SHIELD

Blue Shield employs about 1800 workers in its four San Francisco branches. A great number of them are Pilipinos. At the Stockton branch, there are about 300 Pilipino clerks and claim examiners, most of whom are on immigrant status. As for educational background, these workers have diplomas (and more often, long practical experience while in the Philippines) as nurses, dentists, doctors and teachers but they lack state board certifications that deter them from active professional practice here.

Another reason for their "over-qualification" is the present recession phase of U.S. capitalist economy that makes it hard for newly-arrived immigrants from getting jobs related to their field of experience. Or for that matter, it is hard for them to get jobs, least of all, good-paying jobs.

At CBS, the Pilipinos were at first passive during the initial part of the union campaign. Because of the oppressive conditions CBS workers were subjected to, CBS management found it easy to intimidate its Pilipino employees from joining the union because the newly-arrived immigrant-workers were afraid that signing union pledges were tantamount to signing their own dismissal papers.

But when it was pointed out repeatedly that it is precisely by organizing a union to work actively for workers' rights that will stop management's arbitrary decisions, i.e., lay-offs, unjust evaluations, favoritism, etc., more Pilipinos and other workers joined the snow-balling campaign.

FRATERNAL SUPPORT

The CBS union committee got firm, active support from concerned community sectors. Leafletting was vigorously undertaken by friends of Pilipino workers, OPEIU union members, etc. There were various meetings held to discuss important management decisions and strategies to gather no-votes.

Kalayaan took an active role as a supporter of the Pilipinos in the CBS struggle. As our editorial pointed out, *Kalayaan* as a revolutionary Pilipino vanguard

"... must consistently support and participate in the progressive struggle of working people for better working conditions and at the same time continue to explain to our people that the (U.S.) capitalist system by its very nature is exploitative and unjust, and that there can be no genuine and long-lasting solutions without revolutionary change."

Kalayaan was welcomed heartedly by our Pilipino brothers and sisters at CBS.

JUNE 1 ELECTION

By election time, there were indications that the union struggle was on the road to victory. The CBS workers, especially Pilipinos, were becoming highly receptive to yes-vote and were increasingly becoming involved in luncheon meetings and other discussion groups in assessing CBS working conditions and problems of union organizing in this country.

The elections results: 780-yes, 664-no. The union won its battle and the people were jubilant over this victory.

ANALYSIS

There are important lessons learned from this struggle and the significant advances made must be underscored not only in the Blue Shield case but also in our movement for genuine revolutionary change in this society.

One basic lesson of the Blue Shield union organizing is that it can be a firm example of a united front. Where there have been many other instances when union organizers have scored real hard-earned victories, the key reasons are unity and determination to win. The CBS workers have proved that they can emerge victorious amid the system's divisive tactics, i.e., intimidation, blatant lies, small-time fringe benefits fostering individualistic tendencies among workers, etc., once they forge principled unity among the different progressive-minded workers for a common goal.

PILIPINOS AS WORKING-CLASS

But in the United States, white-collar union organizing among Pilipinos and Third World peoples, outside the blue-collar workers, have been minimal, if not unsuccessful. Pilipinos who come over in this decade belong to the middle-class strata of Philippine society in values if not in status. They come to America with hopes of enjoying the "good life" that Madison Avenue-type of propaganda of the American way of life brainwash Pilipinos into leaving their homeland.

Despite their highly-skilled professional background, Pilipinos from the middle class who come to the U.S. today become discriminated and pitted against other Third World working people in scrambling for jobs and housing. Individualistic tendencies of middle-class Pilipinos are exploited by the racist American system so much so that it hampers effective unity among Pilipinos themselves, what more of other racial groups.

However middle-class Pilipinos may be when they come to America, they become part of the working class of the American capitalist system. They experience a big difference between propaganda and reality. They find their wages "frozen" by Nixon in an attempt to "improve the economy" but rents remain too high and the prices for clothing, food and shelter sky-rocket! Middle-class mentality and oppressive working conditions provide them with basic conflicting questions by the the conclusion is things "aren't really roses-and-lollipops" for the newly-arrived Pilipino immigrants.

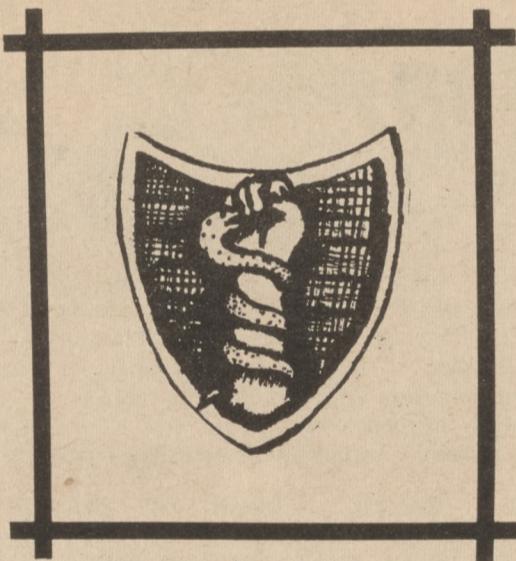
EXEMPLARY CASE

With the Blue Shield union organizing victory, it was clearly demonstrated that Pilipinos with other Third World workers can now understand the need to organize to take a militant stand against racism and discrimination perpetrated against them by this oppressive system.

There is this new confidence that not only can Pilipinos be organized, we can be disciplined in carrying out an alliance with other groups in pursuing justice and equality.

And the meaning of MAKIBAKA! assumes an ever more relevant call of the times. They struggled without fear and they won.

MAKIBAKA, HUWAG MATAKOT!!!!
IPAGPATULOY ANG PAKIBAKA!!!
MABUHAY ANG MGA MANGGAGAWANG PILIPINO!!!!



PILIPINO WORKERS' VICTORY

Another important point is that the Blue Shield union success is not an isolated case, although it is the first victory of organized Pilipino working-class struggle in this decade.

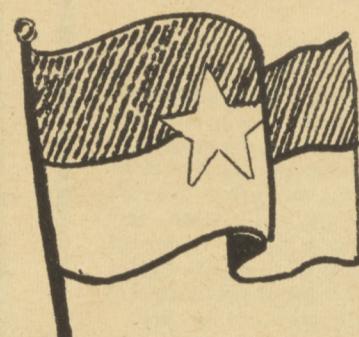
Pilipinos in America have a rich and long tradition in organizing unions and working for better conditions as part of the American labor struggle. In 1920 and 1924, there were strikes organized by Pilipinos in Hawaiian sugar plantations. Today, these first-wave immigrant Pilipinos are still active in the labor movement. In the 1930's Carlos Bulosan and his fellow workers helped organize Pilipinos in canneries and longshoremen in their efforts to form labor unions. It has often been underscored that the Pilipinos started the great Grape Strike in Delano in 1965. Today, the United Farm Workers Union has over 14,000 Pilipino members with active Pilipino union officials, like Phillip Vera Cruz, Andy Imuton, Pete Velasco, etc.

In the Philippines, labor union organizing has also an equally rich history. Since the beginning of American rule, in the 1900's, agitation for workers' protection have prompted Isabelo de los Reyes and other Pilipino unionists to organize *obreros* (unions). By 1920's, Crisanto Evangelista, founder of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and a well-known labor leader, had been active in the union movement for social and national liberation of the Philippines from American imperialism. By the thirties and during the depression, the Congress of Labor Organizations (CLO) led by Amado Hernandez, Pilipino poet-laureate, has been a militant labor group involved not only in union organizing but in the independence movement. During the post-war era, the labor unions fell into the renegade stronghold of opportunist leaders. But in the 1970's, there have been attempts to re-organize the labor movement in the Philippines.



KALAYAAN SUPPLEMENT

SUPPLEMENT page 1



VIETNAM WILL WIN!

This supplement is an attempt to provide an overview of the Vietnam war. The essential political conflict between the Vietnamese nation and the American government; the "Vietnamization" program, the significance and broad outline of the NLF/PRG offensive for the last three months; Nixon's responses . . . escalations . . . vain attempts to make a "deal" with the two largest socialist countries; and the 7-point Peace Proposal of the PRG.

The purpose of the article is to present some of the complex realities so as to substantiate the simple fact that the Vietnam war has entered its final stages—the victory of the Vietnamese people is imminent and the complete withdrawal of the U.S. is inevitable.

This broad understanding will encourage us to renew our determination and accelerate our efforts to bring the war in Indochina to its final end. We encourage people to study, in addition, more comprehensive background material i.e., *Vietnam Will Win* by Wilfred Burchett and the Pentagon Papers as well as to keep close touch with current developments through reliable news sources, i.e., the *Guardian* newspaper and the *War Bulletins*.



Vietnamese Liberation forces

INTRODUCTION

Within the last two months, there has been an important turn of events in the war in Vietnam. The National Liberation forces of South Vietnam have launched the longest and most massive offensive in the history of the war—with no sign of let up. The overall result has been the widespread and systematic dismantling throughout South Vietnam of the repressive military and political network of the unpopular Thieu regime.

For the Nixon administration, this means the total failure of his much publicized "Vietnamization" Plan. For the revolutionary and progressive people throughout the world it means a new and crucial stage has been reached in Vietnam which requires of us a clear understanding of the recent events, as well as a renewed determination to fight for U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam and Indochina and prevent Nixon from continuing his "desperation" war maneuvers against the people of Vietnam.

With the way the news on Vietnam is handled in the media, it makes it impossible for the people to get a total picture of what's happening. Everywhere we turn we are bombarded with "news about Vietnam, but there is no consistency in the papers, TV, and radio reports to help us really understand the situation there. Instead many reports contradict each other, there are times of obvious news "black out" when only "official" reports from the Saigon Military Command reach the public and of course there are the regular "war is peace, peace is war" TV speeches of President Nixon filled with clever distortions and outright lies.

Despite all this, the majority of the people in the U.S. suspect that something very short of the truth is being presented to them. At a time when Nixon and the Pentagon are desperately attempting to "resell" the war in Indochina to the American people—the discontented desire for U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam is growing stronger among the people.

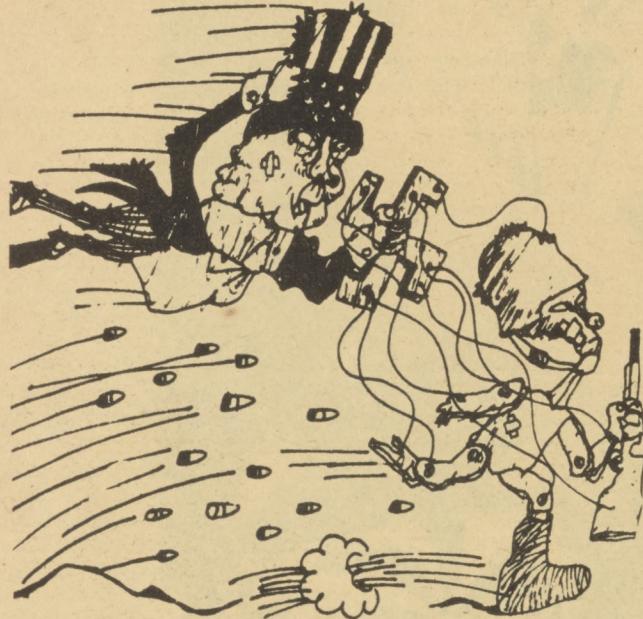
In an attempt to provide progressive Pilipino people with an overall view of the significant new developments in the U.S.-Indochina War, the Kalayaan will summarize some of the major events of the last two months.

THE BACKGROUND

The major point that the recent and ongoing offensive of the National Liberation Front (NLF) has proven to the whole world is that Nixon's famous "Vietnamization" plan is a failure, and that the only way to stop the fighting in Vietnam is for the U.S. to seriously negotiate with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam (PRG) in Paris, for the total withdrawal of American troops and bases from Vietnam and for the abandonment of U.S. support to the dictator Thieu, thereby allowing the South Vietnamese people to settle for themselves the political situation of their own country. In short, the Vietnamese people will settle for nothing less than complete and genuine independence and fighting will continue indefinitely until Nixon and the U.S. government are forced to recognize that fact.

This lesson about the importance of genuine independence has been taught by the Vietnamese people many times in the past, to the French, the Japanese and the Americans. But Nixon is so stubborn, he refuses to learn from the past and present defeats. U.S. policy in Vietnam from 1954 to the present has been a series of "plans...defeats...new plans...and defeat." The current defeat of Nixon's Vietnamization plan is the last in a series of continuing defeats.

PUPPET AND PUPPETEER TAKE IT ON THE LAM



The underlying purpose, however, of U.S. policy in Vietnam has never changed since 1954... Stripped of its rhetoric, it is quite simple... the "government" of South Vietnam must remain within the American sphere of domination in order to keep South Vietnam, in particular, and Southeast Asia in general, "open" and "friendly" to U.S. and other capitalist investors.

Likewise, the position of the Vietnamese people fighting against the U.S. is simple and remains the same until today... The Vietnamese people cannot allow the continued foreign domination of their country. Imperialist neo-colonialism will force South Vietnam to remain a poor and backward country. This runs counter to the fundamental desires of the Vietnamese people for a prosperous, independent and democratic country. In addition, U.S. presence will perpetuate the division of the country into north and south. This is unacceptable to the Vietnamese nation which has a proud history of over 2,000 years.



The reason the Vietnamese Liberation forces are winning the war is because they are one with the people. Here, the Memot people welcome National Liberation Front troops after a victorious battle.



THE CRUX OF THE MATTER

It is important for the people in America to understand that the war in Vietnam is *not* the result of "blunders" and "mistakes." The war stems from these two conflicting and irreconcilable positions on what the future of South Vietnam will be. The war is the result of Vietnamese resistance to America's attempts to impose this "U.S. plan" on South Vietnam. The recurring defeats of the U.S. and the "endless" character of the war results from the determination of the vast majority of the people of Vietnam to carry out their own "plan" for national independence and self-determination. Concerning genuine independence, the Vietnamese will allow no compromise and they are prepared to fight another 20 years. Therefore to end the war will require the unconditional recognition of the national independence and self-determination of Vietnam... Nixon has shown again and again that despite defeats, he is unwilling to do this.

ORIGINS AND FAILURE OF "VIETNAMIZATION"

Nixon was elected four years ago, on a promise that he would end the war in Vietnam. This strategy, he called "Vietnamization," It called for building up a 1.1 million man Saigon army (ARVN), supplying this "army" indefinitely, with all the needed war materials and U.S. advisors, as well as unlimited U.S. air support for its ground operations. The plan also attempted to "pacify" the large areas of the countryside under NLF influence/control. The "pacification" program stripped of its fine sounding rhetoric, was a brutal attack against the Vietnamese peasantry. In order to "protect people from the enemy," people were forced from their native villages into "strategic hamlets" surrounded by barbed wire and guards ("to keep the NLF out" and the people in!). When people insisted on remaining or returning to their native places, their villages would be burned to the ground and the crop lands spread with chemical defoliants.

Strategic hamlets proved ineffective in cutting the people off from the NLF guerrillas. What the U.S. military "experts" can never seem to get through their heads is that the NLF and PRG are not "alien" forces to the people. The NLF and PRG political leaders and guerrilla fighters are the sons and daughters of the villagers themselves. When villagers get herded into "strategic hamlets" the NLF goes too and their operations continue underground. In order to stop the supposed "NLF infiltration" into pacified areas the CIA developed the "Phoenix" program. Its function is to imprison and/or assassinate suspected leaders of the NLF underground. U.S. officials have admitted that over 88,000 South Vietnamese people have been "neutralized" by the "phoenix program" ... i.e., they were murdered and kept in the "tiger-cage prisons." Many of the people victimized are not active within the NLF underground and, despite this assassination program, U.S. advisors begrudgingly admit that the NLF political structure has not been destroyed, but has actually grown in the last three years. The clearest proof of the failure of "strategic hamlets" and the "Phoenix Program" has been the repeated destruction and dismantling of the hamlets by the People's Liberation Armed Forces (PLAF) with closely coordinated assistance from "the inside of the hamlet" itself.

Faced with such failures, Nixon's policy from the beginning has not been so much "implementing" Vietnamization as much as "rescuing" it from total collapse. It is only with this understanding that the desperate and barbaric escalations of the war by the Nixon Administration can be explained. Unable to keep the Vietnamese within "strategic hamlets" the U.S. has resorted to saturation bombing and defoliation of vast areas of South Vietnam's countryside. The insane logic is: if you can't get the fish (NLF/PRG) from the ocean (peasantry), then drain the ocean! The purpose of such massive destruction is to force the peasantry to flee to the "strategic hamlets" and cities in order to escape the bombings. This brutal tactic has also failed. For years, in the "liberated areas of S. Vietnam, the people have displayed their determination to carry on life outside the sphere of American control. Schools, hospitals, factories continue to function in caves, underground shelters and deep in the jungles. If need be, the farming is done in the night time... life goes on despite difficulties and the people continue to support and supply the PLAF fighters. Every new U.S. atrocity only serves to strengthen the people's determination to drive out the Americans no matter how long it takes—this is the meaning of "People's War."

Serious cracks in Nixon's "Vietnamization" became clearer to American people with the invasion of Cambodia and a few months later the invasion of southern Laos. Nixon's contradictory explanation for the invasions was that Vietnamization was being threatened only because of NLF sanctuaries in Cambodia and North Vietnamese supply lines in southern Laos. So in order to "vietnamize" the war, he had to first expand the war into Cambodia and Laos! Both invasions backfired in Nixon's face. The Saigon Army was badly routed despite massive U.S. backup and the mercenary nature of the ARVN (Saigon) troops was clearly displayed. In Cambodia ARVN troops looted and burned Cambodian villages, raped the women and committed other genocidal crimes against the people. In the fighting in Southern Laos, ARVN troops turned, fled and deserted by the thousands. Chaos reigned as Saigon officers and men fought each other to see who would board the evacuation helicopters. U.S. backup was used more to shoot the deserting Saigon troops rather than help them fight the NLF and North Vietnamese forces.

In the wake of these invasions, Cambodian Liberation forces have gained control of four-fifths of Cambodian territory while in southern Laos, the Pathet Lao (Laotian Liberation Forces) now controls the strategic Bolaven's Plateau. Already one year ago, the handwriting was on the wall, Nixon's vietnamization plan was doomed to failure and its final defeat was imminent.

Yet Nixon is a stubborn president and refuses to face up to a U.S. defeat. While still pushing "Vietnamization," his new tactic was to approach the two large socialist countries, China and the Soviet Union, with the thinly veiled intention of fishing for their cooperation in mapping out some Vietnam settlement which would be more acceptable to the U.S. than the settlement conditions offered by the Vietnamese in Paris. At the same time, Nixon was making his big announcements that he would visit Peking and Moscow, he was winding down the Paris negotiations, refusing to reply constructively to the Vietnamese Peace proposal and sending in second-rate negotiators who had little power to engage in any serious discussions. (Bruce was replaced with Porter.) While public attention in the U.S. was directed elsewhere, Nixon reconfirmed his support of the Saigon dictator Thieu, during the farcical October "elections." He accelerated efforts once again to bolster up the unstable "Vietnamization" program. All this with an eye toward the U.S. presidential elections in the fall.

But history has proven once again that in Vietnam, the initiative rests not with the U.S. but with the Vietnamese Liberation Forces. In March, the present offensive was begun; it has shown to be the most massive and decisive NLF offensive in the history of the war (already much larger than the famous Tet offensive of 1968). Since then, the Provisional Revolutionary Government has put forth the general call for popular uprisings throughout South Vietnam against the U.S. aggressors and the U.S. puppet Thieu. Even the U.S. military advisers admit that the present offensive could go on for months. But more true is the fact that the timetable for the offensive is totally within the hands of the NLF/PRG. It does not rest with either Nixon or Thieu. The U.S. and Saigon troops are only in a position that is defensive to the new moves of the Vietnamese Liberation Forces. But one thing is certain, the Vietnamese have chosen the time to completely destroy Nixon's hope for "Vietnamization" and to make crystal clear to the whole world that a U.S. military victory and the continuation of the Thieu Regime in Saigon is absolutely impossible. In this way, the U.S. government will be forced to go back to the Paris negotiations and seriously make arrangements for complete U.S. withdrawal from South Vietnam.

THE OFFENSIVE

The present Vietnamese offensive is taking place on many different levels, however the press only records the large scale military encounters around cities. Because of this, the people here do not get an accurate understanding of the full scope of what is happening in Vietnam. For many years now, the NLF has operated militarily on their different levels. There are local guerilla units, the regional armed forces and, on the highest level, is the People's Liberation Army which is capable of waging conventional warfare. All these levels fight in careful coordination through a central command while allowing tactical flexibility in specific areas as well as simultaneous military actions on all levels in different parts of the country. The U.S. and Saigon troops have always proved unable to outmaneuver the NLF forces. Ultimately, because it is a "People's War," the NLF has been able to keep the military initiative against the Puppet Saigon troops which get bogged down in huge transport, supply, and other logistical problems.



Weeks before the offensive had begun, there were clear signs of what was coming. In Quang Tri province below the DMZ, for example, there was a marked increase in NLF regional and guerilla attacks, overrunning many small Saigon military outposts. When the large scale push came on March 31st, the province was quickly liberated. In one week's time, the NLF/PRG controlled the whole province except for the city of Quang Tri itself. Before the news even hit the U.S. press, the Saigon army's 3rd division was badly beaten with many troops retreating toward Hue or deserting to the NLF side. (The whole 56th regiment along with officers went over to the NLF during the first days of fighting.) As many of Saigon's first rate troops were being rushed up to defend Hue, Danang and Phu Bai (large U.S. bases), a second front was opened by the NLF at An Loc, 60 miles north of Saigon.

An Loc in Binh Lang province is considered vital to the city of Saigon's northern defenses. When the offensive began there, the NLF allowed Saigon's 5th division to advance up Highway 13 to An Loc while it closed in behind them to trap them in the city. The 5th division is still there, almost wiped out now. What's left of it is being hit not only by the NLF, but also by the U.S. which has preceded to virtually destroy the city with bombs.

While newspapers were reporting the battle of An Loc, they missed again the fighting on other levels which in the long run will prove the most significant. While Saigon troops were tied down with big battles, the hated "pacification" network of Thieu was being knocked out of operation. In Binh Lang, and surrounding provinces for example, all the Saigon military outposts were overrun. In villages, Thieu's henchmen were quickly imprisoned or executed if they didn't manage to flee first, and their goon squads (called: village defense unit) were disarmed by the local population. Village committees are being elected to take over governmental functions formerly done by Saigon. The overall effect is the total elimination of Thieu's political/military control in the countryside.

Meanwhile, Nixon and Thieu try desperately to keep major towns from falling to the NLF. To save An Loc, the entire 21st division was sent from the Mekong Delta to reinforce the besieged 5th division. (Thieu even ordered his own palace guards from Saigon to An Loc). The Liberation forces allowed the 21st division to proceed halfway to An Loc, then stopped and surrounded them. To this date, the 21st division has been unable to either get to An Loc or retreat to Saigon. Trapped on Highway 13, the puppet troops have been systematically decimated, as a fighting unit the 21st division is finished. His fiasco left Saigon's military presence in the Delta region very weak. (The Mekong area south of Saigon is where most S. Vietnamese live and supposedly the showcase of the "pacification program.") The NLF regional and guerilla forces have unfolded a general popular uprising in the Delta that cannot be reversed by the Saigon regime. Since the beginning of the offensive, there have been thousands of small scale attacks reported against Saigon artillery bases, police stations, roads, bridges, communication lines, etc. Although these attacks don't reach U.S. headlines, the cumulative effect has been that the Saigon puppet troops have essentially lost control of the Mekong and southern top of the country. Hundreds of villages and whole provinces such as Chuong Thien (with 300,000 people) and other provinces bordering Cambodia have been liberated. Highways 4 (linking Delta with Saigon) and 1 (linking Phnom Penh, Cambodia, with Saigon) have been cut in many places and B-52's are carrying out bombing raids in the area for the first time since the TET offensive in 1968.

In the middle of S. Vietnam, the central highlands and along the coast, the collapse of the Thieu administration also proceeded rapidly. By mid-April, there were widespread attacks on regional outposts of the Saigon government in the provinces of Kontum, Pleiku, Phu Bon in the Highlands and the strategic and densely populated Binh Dinh province on the coast. One fire base after another have been abandoned by the "elite" Saigon 22nd division responsible for holding the highlands. NLF victories were scored at Dak To, Vodinh, outside Kontum, and Pleiku. Before the U.S. press even began reporting about an "impending" third front in the Central Highlands, the backbone of the Saigon 22nd division was broken with two battalions of Rangers and one brigade of parachutes wiped out.

At the same time, in the central plains, Saigon troops put up little resistance to local uprisings and attacks by NLF regional and guerilla units. Almost the whole province (Binh Dinh) was liberated in 10 days as Saigon troops either retreated or refused to fight. On April 20, for instance, the second largest city (Hoai An) of the province, was given up without a fight as puppet soldiers left their rifles and uniforms and fled in civilian clothes. The Military Command in Saigon was powerless to save the situation since their army was tied down in so many places. By the end of April, the N.Y. Times admitted that the liberation forces "appeared to be on their way to cutting S. Vietnam in two."

This is an overall view of the military and political situation that the NLF/PRG offensive created in S. Vietnam in a few short weeks. Faced with this, Nixon chose not to negotiate a U.S. withdrawal in Paris but rather to ESCALATE the war again.



BOMBINGS, BUILDUPS
AND ESCALATION

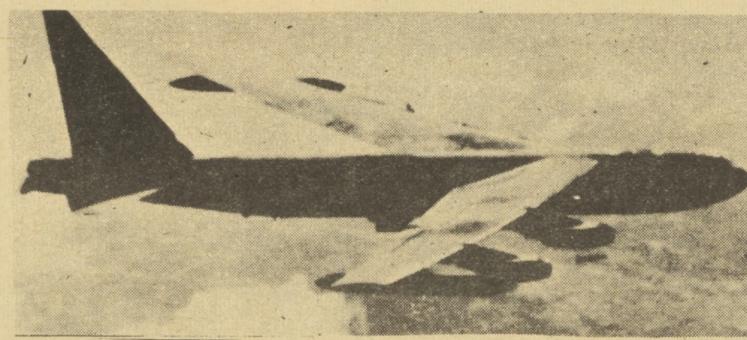
Nixon has unleashed the heaviest bombing over the Democratic Republic of Vietnam since the beginning of the war. He has gone even further than Johnson by ordering the destruction of Hanoi and Haiphong. He is responsible for dropping more bombs than any other man in history. Although Nixon, during his TV announcements, states that the bombing is directed at "military targets only," evidence has proven he is lying. In addition to North Vietnamese sources which speak of "hundreds of civilian casualties," there have been many eyewitness reports from foreign visitors and reporters. The accounts that reach the U.S. papers are mostly from Lewis of the N.Y. Times and Hanoi of French News Agency.

Both cities have been hit with B-52's. (B-52's carry 30 tons of 500 lb. bombs, they fly very high—over 30,000 ft., and leave a path of utter destruction $\frac{1}{4}$ mile wide and 1 miles long). After one B-52 raid on Haiphong (April 16), Lewis reports, "City officials said that 224 persons were killed that day, 513 were injured and nearly 2,000 homes destroyed. After one inspects the damage, these figures seem quite possible.... Across the road is the Thai Phien School. It was attended by 3,000 children between the ages of 11 and 17, the visitor is told. The three buildings that made up the school are now a total wreck." Henri reports that the heart of the cities were bombed and anti-personnel bombs were dropped. In an article he described watching doctors attempt to remove cube-shaped pellets from young children. (Imperialist technology has developed clear plastic pellets that cannot be detected by x-rays!). Henri has toured the north and reported many cases where the U.S. deliberately bombed civilian targets such as hospitals and churches.

The purpose of this brutality is to demoralize and intimidate the North Vietnamese people. All reliable reports, however, indicate that the bombings have failed to do this, in fact they have served to increase the peoples' determination to assist the south and fight till the U.S. is forced to withdraw from Indochina. From 1965 to '68 the DRV was bombed, yet during that period the North Vietnamese people underwent all hardship and increased their supplies and support to the south. Today the north is again preparing for a long siege with even greater determination. Lewis from the N.Y. Times reports the morale is high, the people are confident and there is no panic even in the face of the most severe U.S. atrocities. Life is adjusting rapidly and there is no food shortage. Evacuation of the cities and large towns is occurring in an orderly fashion as schools, hospitals, and factories are being decentralized and moved into the mountain regions. From within the Hanoi bomb shelters, Lewis writes, "while the Europeans look especially pale, the Vietnamese chatter and laugh. Does this mean they are not afraid? Of course, anything may become more bearable over time, but they clearly still know fear. They explain they have no choice except to fight until the Americans go away."

Nixon's stated purpose for attacking the north is to punish them for "invading" the south and to stop the flow of supplies to the south and thereby end the present offensive.

Concerning Nixon's charge of a "north" invasion, the Vietnamese response has been clear... Vietnam is one country, a nation with a history of thousands of years. The whole of Vietnam belongs to the Vietnamese people—not to the Americans. Vietnamese are not "invaders" in their own country. In fact, it is the U.S. which is the outside invader, occupying the south and installing a series of subservient puppet regimes. In fact it is the U.S. presence that tries to divide Vietnam in two—oppressing the people in the south, attacking the people in the north. All Vietnamese have the duty to fight to drive the U.S. aggressors from Vietnam just as they did the French and the Japanese. The people in the north have the right to assist the south in supplies as well as manpower. This is what the North Vietnamese state openly.



What the North and South Vietnamese both refute, however, is the absurd charge that there would be no fighting in the south if it were not for the north. This is an old trick of the U.S. to attempt to deny the independent existence and the leading role played by the NLF/PRG (Vietcong) in the South Vietnamese struggle. By playing down the NLF, the American advisors try to explain away the lack of support the U.S. backed Saigon government receives among the South Vietnamese population—the people they say are "terrorized" by "communist invaders from North Vietnam." This lame argument has lost its credibility, in fact years of fighting has shown that the real terror is inflicted upon the masses of people by the U.S./Saigon in its endless attempts to "flush out" the NLF (napalm, defoliation, My Lai massacres, etc.). Yet during the recent offensive, Nixon and the U.S./Saigon military command are trying desperately to revive this time-worn argument by raving on about a "North Vietnamese Invasion." However, the credibility gap only grows wider as the Saigon Military puppet Command attributes every battle to the N. Vietnamese. From their "official" reports, we are expected to believe that the Vietcong, of which for years we have heard so much of, have within the last few months withered away and it is only "northern invaders" carrying on the present offensive! The truth of the matter is that the wide scale of fighting in the South is being sustained and carried out primarily by South Vietnamese people with the active and open assistance from the people in the North. Today, as in past years, the decisive factor in the S. Vietnamese struggle remains the NLF/PRG with the support of the vast majority of the people.

Concerning Nixon's statement that the bombings will prevent supplies from moving south and thus will stop the offensive, again Nixon is consciously lying to the American people. U.S. military intelligence confirmed that the NLF has enough supplies at present to continue the offensive throughout the summer. Also, past U.S. experiences of bombing the North for three years has proven that it will not stop the flow of supplies going south. In addition the NLF/PRG has been stockpiling for years in preparation for major offensives. But most important is the recent announcement by the NLF that the U.S. is at present its largest supplier of war material. During the offensive, large amounts of arms, ammunition and heavy artillery are being either captured from retreating Saigon troops or brought over to the NLF by deserting regiments...

STRUGGLE for LIB



Vietnamese villagers ready to defend their homelands

U.S. MILITARY
BUILD-UP

B-52's (In Thailand and Guam)	About 80	over 150
Fighter-Bombers (In South Vietnam and Thailand and on carriers)	400	1000
Carriers (plus the Oriskany, on way to area)	3	7
Men aboard Seventh Fleet carriers and other ships	15,000	46,000
In Thailand	32,000	63,000
In South Vietnam	95,500	68,100
	MARCH 30	JUNE 1

"Never before in the Vietnam war, or perhaps in any war, has air power been used with such ferocity. Military sources have confirmed, for example, that strikes by B-52 stratofortresses, each of which drops 24 tons of bombs, have been used against enemy groups as small as 20 or 30 men."

New York Times
May 27, 1972

Nixon's escalations are the clearest admission that his "Vietnamization" has failed. In the past three months, there has been a dramatic buildup of U.S. military personnel and equipment in the Vietnam War Zone. There are now over 100,000 G.I.s in the area and U.S. bases throughout the world on "red alert," with Nixon and the Pentagon no longer ruling out the possibility of reintroducing American ground troops into South Vietnam (May 8). Fighter planes are being rushed to the area by the dozens everyday. This brings the number to over 1,000 planes. The number of B-52's have doubled to over 150. Additional facilities are being expanded and built in Thailand and Guam in order to handle the large increase in personnel and bomb storage. The U.S. Navy and Air Force has assembled off the coast of Vietnam, this being the largest and most destructive armada in the history of mankind. The whole 7th Fleet shells the coast daily taking time out only to go back to Manila Bay for more fuel and bombs. To date there are 7 aircraft carriers, which are floating military bases in themselves and 40 destroyers in the Vietnam war zone.

As hundreds of thousands of people across the U.S. took to the streets to demand a total withdrawal from Vietnam, the NLF/PRG offensive moved into May without any sign of let-up. Nixon on his part squirming for a way out, yet refusing to negotiate a U.S. withdrawal with the Vietnamese in Paris, continued to escalate and back himself more and more into a corner.

"VIETNAMIZATION" HAS NO CHANCE

On May 1st the shattered Saigon Third Division abandoned the provincial capital of Quang Tri, leaving the northernmost province of South Vietnam bordering the DMZ completely liberated. In five days of heavy fighting 10,000 Saigon troops were captured or put out of action. The first to be evacuated by helicopter was Saigon's commanding general, Vu Van Giai, supposedly with a "nervous breakdown." Chaos reigned as "officers" fought each other to flee the battle in helicopters and buses, while thousands of Saigon foot-soldiers threw down their guns and ran 32 miles down Highway 1 to Hue. Once in the city, demoralized Saigon troops looted and burned as drunken soldiers set fire to the central market place. To restore order Saigon issued notice they would shoot down rioting or deserting soldiers. Meanwhile, Thieu blamed the defeat on "bad leadership" and assigned a new general, Ngo Quang Trung, to try to reorganize the Third and the First Division for the defense of Hue.

In the Central Highlands the city of Kontum is completely surrounded by the NLF forces. The shattered 22nd and 23rd Divisions are trapped inside. The commander of the 22nd is listed as "missing" while the overall regional Saigon commander has been evacuated by helicopter to Saigon, supposedly because of a "heart attack." Along with him went the "senior" U.S. advisor (the real commander) supposedly "collapsing from exhaustion." This has led to speculation that the Saigon Command is prepared to sacrifice the city of Kontum, along with all the troops remaining in the city. This is supported by the statement made by an American advisor in Pleiku, a few miles south of Kontum, that any retreating Saigon troops from Kontum would be shot before being allowed to enter Pleiku and thereby further endanger that city. Meanwhile, denying that NLF forces are already in control of sections of the city of Kontum, U.S. papers report heavy bombing of the northern part of the city because "a few North Vietnamese commandoes" have supposedly "infiltrated" a few tanks into the city. Despite such double talk, it is clear that the Saigon army has also lost any effective military control in the Central Highlands.

abandon Saigon and flee to Honolulu," is now occupied by the Liberation forces. In the Delta, NLF regular army divisions are reportedly moving into Chaungthien province as U.S. military intelligence is warning of a new front opening in the Mekong. The Delta is especially vulnerable to attack since Saigon's major divisions are tied down in battles. Along with the MD, in other areas, many of the districts are already being run by revolutionary peoples' committees.

for LIBERATION

Further south, the small city of An Loc has become probably the most bombed city in the history of the war. The Saigon 5th Division, trapped there for over two months, has reported over 50% casualties out of its original number of 6,000 troops. All Saigon's bragging that the city of An Loc has still "not fallen to the North Vietnamese" is of little consolation to the soldiers trapped there totally dependent on U.S. air power for their survival. Meanwhile the "relief" force for An Loc, the 21st Division, is still stopped on Highway 13 with 6,000 of its 12,000 troops listed as casualties by "official" U.S. military reports. It is questionable even among U.S. advisors, whether the Saigon army can survive as a fighting force as a result of this present NLF offensive.

The basic reason why the Saigon puppet army is such a failure is because the majority of the soldiers have been forced into the army with no desire or reason to defend the corrupt Thieu regime. As a U.S. official told a reporter from Wall Street Journal, concerning the superiority of the NLF fighters over the Saigon troops, "Their guys are revolutionaries (NLF) fighting to change the status quo. Our guys (ARVN) are fighting at best, to preserve a status quo ... and one that is not all that attractive to a common soldier. At worst, our guys know that they are fighting so their generals can support another mistress at his villa in Vung Lau (a beach resort near Saigon)."

Continuing reports of district uprisings and small scale NLF takeovers throughout the country contribute to the over-all deterioration of the Thieu government. There have been popular uprisings in most districts in the provinces of Quang Nam and Quang Ngai just south of Hue. Both provinces were old strongholds of the "Viet Minh" (Vietnamese Resistance against France). In the same manner, two strategic provinces east of Saigon, Phuoc Luy and Bien Hoa, have whole districts controlled by the NLF/PRG. Even the district capital of Dot Do, to be used in case Thieu and the U.S. advisors must

The major cities of South Vietnam are also in a state of turmoil and chaos. In besieged cities such as Hue, Pleiku, Da Nang, Quinon ... the Saigon administrative apparatus has completely fallen apart under the strain. Basic governmental and civic services have come to a standstill including the central food markets. In Hue, for example, government workers were warned to continue at their jobs, so as to create an atmosphere of "stability" in the city. But still, all the provincial and city offices have been abandoned, as well as hospitals and schools. Saigon government employees, defying orders, are fleeing the city along with their families and friends. It is estimated that 80% of Hue residents have either left or are in the process of leaving the city, as NLF forces entrench themselves around Hue in preparation for the big attack expected soon. In Pleiku the scene is a bit more hectic as people riot at the airfield for a place on the evacuation helicopter. In all cases, the desire of the people to get out of the cities shows they have little faith in the ability of the Saigon regime to "protect" them as well as no illusion as to what destruction the U.S. B-52's are prepared to do once the city is controlled by the NLF/PRG forces.

In the city of Saigon only Thieu's distorted version of the war is allowed and all "opposition" papers and radio stations have been closed down. Thieu declared "National Emergency" which officially allows him to rule by decree. Thousands of progressive personages who either want an end to the fighting or are pacifists or neutralists have been arrested in the past months. All 7 universities have been shut down and students ordered drafted into the Saigon army. Many young people have gone into hiding and others are fighting openly against this ruling. In the National Assembly, men, who could never be called communists by the furthest stretch of the imagination, are openly calling for Thieu's resignation; U.S. withdrawal; and end to the fighting, and the formation of a coalition government which would include the PRG.

On the whole, the city of Saigon is unnervingly quiet as rumors spread that the NLF is infiltrating fighters into the city for the purpose of a general uprising. Undoubtedly there is some truth in this, but more importantly the NLF has been patiently developing an underground in the cities for years in preparation for the historic day when U.S. imperialism would be kicked out of Vietnam.

Le Duc Tho, one of the chief Vietnamese negotiators in Paris, said recently, "In our view imperialism is linked with war and aggression. When imperialism speaks of "peace" it is the moment when imperialism can no longer "rule the roost." When Nixon speaks of a peaceful settlement it is because he is forced to speak of it. But at the bottom of his heart this is not what he wants."

Any careful assessment of the situation in Vietnam points to one thing—the U.S. will be forced, sooner or later, to respect the self-determination of the Vietnamese people and unconditionally withdraw from Vietnam and Indochina. The people of Vietnam, progressive people throughout the world, and the people in the U.S. all want the U.S. withdrawal to be sooner—to be now. But, despite the deteriorating situation in Vietnam, Nixon has shown his determination to back the Thieu regime, continue the war and escalate it! As Le Duc Tho points out, a man like Nixon will withdraw only when he is forced to and there are no more alternatives left open to him.

(continued...)

In Quang Tri a revolutionary committee was set up to administer the liberated city and province. At the same time B-52's proceeded to level the city to the ground just as they had done to Da Nang (north of Quang Tri) a few days earlier. To make it perfectly clear, puppet general, Hoang Xuan Lam, told an AP reporter, "I will order the destruction of any town occupied by the enemy." This kind of blind and brutal US/Saigon retaliation can be aptly termed a "bloodbath" ... a term Nixon is so fond of using to describe the NLF offensive. Such U.S. bombings are the primary reason why people are fleeing southward. The people are attempting to escape the bombs and destruction, but the U.S. press is describing them as "political refugees" escaping the communists. Such reporting is a crude distortion of the harsh realities occurring in South Vietnam today.

VIETNAMESE CAN'T BE ISOLATED

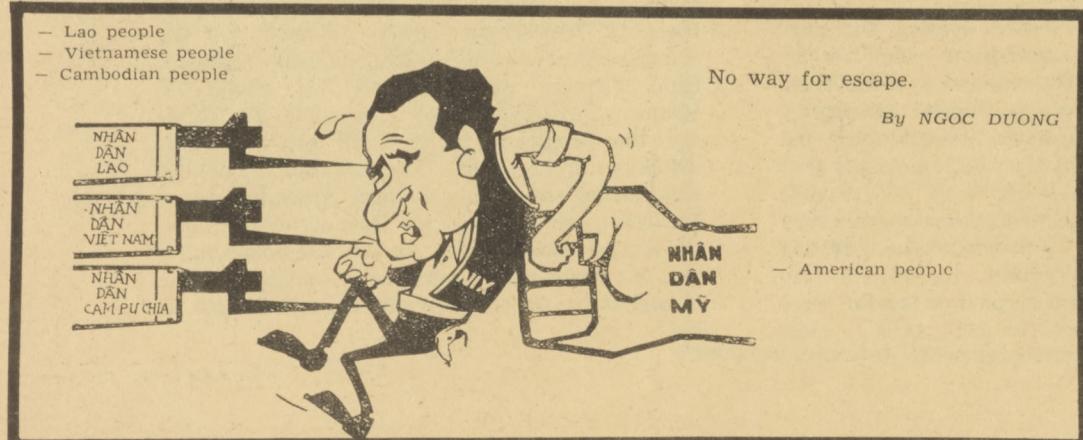
The Vietnamese people have proven that in the course of the war, it is impossible for the U.S. to suppress the struggle in the South or to cut the North off from the South. In desperation, Nixon, for the past year has tried to cut North Vietnam off from her allies in the Socialist Camp, especially the two largest countries, the Soviet Union and the Peoples Republic of China. When the offensive came, Nixon intensified these efforts by mining the ports of North Vietnam and bombing all land supply routes. All these efforts have proved unsuccessful.

The Nixon/Kissinger attempts to "internationalize" the war are last ditch efforts which stem from the failure of the U.S. to: 1) win a military victory in Vietnam and 2) negotiate a peaceful settlement with the Vietnamese short of honoring their right to self-determination. By approaching China and the USSR, the U.S. hoped to draw them into the Vietnam negotiations in the hopes that these "big" countries would "force" the Vietnamese to accept some of the "American terms" for a settlement. Once again the Nixon administration miscalculated by grossly underestimating the 1) strength and independence of the Vietnamese revolution (specifically the Workers' Party of Vietnam), 2) the consistency of the revolutionary policies of the PRG and 3) the pivotal significance that the Vietnamese struggle against U.S. imperialism has within the whole Socialist camp. Because of these miscalculations, Nixon's much-publicized trips to Peking and Moscow did not provide the U.S. with any "easy way out" to the Vietnam War. Vietnam has clearly proven that the days are gone forever when "big nations" could decide among themselves the fate of the smaller nations. To end the war the U.S. must negotiate directly with the Vietnamese a settlement which is acceptable to the Vietnamese!!

China's principled stand toward U.S. aggression in Indochina has not flinched in the slightest manner despite Nixon's trip there. China flatly refuses to accept the role of a "super power" despite any cheap flattery from Nixon. She openly maintains that U.S. imperialism is the aggressor in Vietnam; and that the U.S. can negotiate a settlement only with the Vietnamese; and that China supports the just peace proposals put forth by the PRG of South Vietnam. The Chinese people will continue to support fully the Vietnamese struggle until U.S. imperialism is driven from Vietnam. Furthermore, the Chinese had let it be known that state relations between the U.S. and the PRC can never be normalized until the U.S. negotiates a total withdrawal from Indochina and abandons its aggressive policies throughout Asia. Any hopes Nixon had of wheeling and dealing in Peking failed miserably.

Having the "initiative" in a fight means being able to successfully dodge a punch as well as return one. Nixon's arrogant mining of North Vietnamese ports and bombing of railway lines and bridges have in fact not stopped the supplies from reaching Vietnam. This shows that the initiative in battle rests with the Vietnamese and the Socialist camp and not with the U.S.

The U.S. is no longer in any position to choose the time and place of battle by "mining" Vietnam ports. Supplies destined for Vietnam from China, USSR, as well as other countries have begun to move over land and rail routes. Southern Chinese ports have been opened to all ships trading with Vietnam. With relatively no disruptions, Chinese rail service was reorganized overnight to handle all transport of supplies to different points on the Vietnamese border.



No way for escape.

By NGOC DUONG

— American people

Smug Pentagon "experts" who study closely the antagonistic relations between the USSR and the PRC, were shocked to find the Soviets and Chinese reach such quick agreement on the movement of Soviet supplies across China to Vietnam. The China/Soviet border which in the past few years has been the scene of much tension between the two countries with over one million Soviet troops stationed there, has altered its character somewhat in recent weeks as Soviet and Chinese workers cooperate to send supplies to Vietnamese fighters... This is not to say that the differences within the Socialist Camp, particularly between the USSR and the PRC, have been resolved. The important struggle as to what really constitutes revolutionary theory and practice at this present time in history will surely continue. However, what becomes clear is that the Vietnamese struggle against U.S. aggression and support for the DRV has now become the most central unifying factor tying all the Socialist countries into one camp. Nixon's clumsy attempts to seal off North Vietnam from the rest of the socialist camp has backfired in his face as he helped create a situation which allowed the socialist countries to reaffirm their unity in support of the Vietnamese struggle... In May North Vietnamese delegate to Paris, Le Duc Tho, said "one of the great maneuvers of Nixon is to try to divide the USSR and China from the DRV. But this is a vain effort. The Soviet Union, China and other countries continue their aid and assistance to the Vietnamese people."

On the issue of Vietnam, Nixon's trip to Moscow also did not produce the results he was hoping for. Although the Soviet Union in recent years has reached "agreements" with the U.S. at the expense of smaller nations and acted as a "superpower," on the question of Vietnam there was no bargaining. The key factor in understanding this and something which Nixon's "advisors" can never quite get through their heads, is that there are absolutely no parties in a position to bargain over the heads of the Vietnamese. Among communist parties, the Worker's Party of Vietnam has unquestioned prestige and universal respect. The leadership, beginning with Ho Chi Minh, has always maintained principled and independent political positions in accordance with the particular needs of their country's revolution and the overall needs of the oppressed peoples struggling against imperialism. In a word, North Vietnam is truly an independent country and her allies, no matter how "big" are in fact her equals and not her bosses. The U.S. imperialists have a difficult time understanding this because the word "ally" is used by the U.S. to describe corrupt, puppet regimes such as in Saigon, Seoul and Manila.

In the final analysis, it is the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian peoples which has brought about Nixon's scurrying about to Peking and Moscow. The U.S. defeat in Indochina has greatly altered the balance of world forces in favor of revolution and national liberation and has forced the U.S. to begin to abandon its role of "world policeman."

7 POINTS

The Nixon administration never tires in its attempts to distort the 7 Pt. Peace plan and keep it hidden from the American people. Two of the key issues which Tricky Dick harps on are 1) that the NLF/PRG want to impose a "communist regime" in S. Vietnam, and 2) that it is impossible for the U.S. to withdraw from Indochina until all the American POW's are released first. Both of these fake issues are designed to play on people's emotions, confuse people about the Vietnamese proposal and drag the war on until Nixon has a chance to get reelected in November. Widespread knowledge and support in the U.S. for the Vietnamese proposal would create the necessary political pressure to force Nixon to carry out total U.S. withdrawal from Indochina. It is because of this that Nixon lies so much about the 7 Pt. Peace Proposal of the PRG of S.V.

The PRG has never once proposed that the Thieu puppet regime be replaced by a communist government. What is demanded is that the U.S. withdraw and the dictator Thieu be replaced by a truly democratic government which reflects the desires of the vast majority of Vietnamese people for peace, independence and neutrality. Madame Binh, chief PRG negotiator in Paris, has said, "There never has been a question for us of imposing on South Vietnam any sort of regime whatsoever other than one chosen by the South Vietnamese people. Still less do we wish to impose a communist regime as the Nixon administration continues to maintain. On the contrary, it is the U.S. that stubbornly continues to impose on the South Vietnamese people the pro-American, anti-communist, belligerent, dictatorial and fascist regime of Thieu."

(continued)

PRG 7 POINT PEACE PROPOSAL

The PRG 7 point plan was first presented in Paris as long ago as July, 1971. The two central points are:

1. Regarding the military situation: The U.S. must set a date for the total withdrawal of all U.S. troops, military personnel, weapons and war materials and those of its allies.
2. Regarding the political situation in South Vietnam: the U.S. must end its intervention in the internal affairs of South Vietnam and stop backing the regime of Nguyen Van Thieu.

What the second point of the PRG 7 Pt. Proposal actually calls for is a broad three segment government of "national concord" to replace Thieu. The three segments would include representatives from the PRG/NLF, from pacifist and neutralist forces who are neither part of the PRG nor the present Saigon regime, and thirdly, members from the Saigon government itself who are prepared to abandon Thieu and the U.S. and cooperate with other social/political forces in building an independent, democratic South Vietnam.

The immediate functions of the Government of National Concord are also spelled out in the 7 Pt. Plan. They are: to enforce a cease fire between NLF and Saigon troops, to prohibit all acts of terror and reprisal, to ensure every democratic liberty, to dissolve all concentration camps (strategic hamlets) and allow people to return to their native places, to release all people jailed for political reasons, to see that the people's conditions of living are stabilized and gradually improved, to create conditions where everyone can contribute to healing the war wounds and rebuilding the country, and to agree on measures to be taken to ensure the holding of genuinely free, democratic and fair general elections in S. Vietnam. Nixon has attempted to keep hidden this fair and reasonable proposal of the Vietnamese by labeling it "communist takeover."



When the Vietnamese say they are not intending to impose a communist regime on S. Vietnam, this is in no way a denial of the leading role played by the communists in the Vietnamese struggle, both past and present. The communist forces, led by Ho Chi Minh, led the broad struggle against French colonialism and Japanese invasion, fought consistently for the rights of the workers and peasants and brought the people to power in North Vietnam. Today in the south, the situation is similar. Although the NLF/PRG includes many non-communist patriots in leadership positions, the leading role played by communists is undeniable. The important thing for people in America to understand is that the communists have played an integral role in the revolutionary traditions of the Vietnamese nation and the majority of Vietnamese people associate communists with the most patriotic and faithful fighters for the rights of the people and the nation. This point is most graphically proven by the fact that Ho Chi Minh is considered, both north and south, as the Father of the Nation and the Hero of the People.

It is impossible to speak of a democratic S. Vietnam that is, at the same time, anti-communist. Unlike the U.S. imperialist, the communists understand that it is impossible to "impose" rule upon the people. They are not afraid of a People's Democracy in which the communists work hand and hand with other democratic forces and parties within the country. They see socialism not as a system that can be imposed by a minority or imported from the North. The preconditions for establishing socialism in S. Vietnam will require first a thorough-going democratic process within the South by which the large majority of the working people come to see clearly the necessity of establishing a socialist system in order to achieve the further development of South Vietnamese society. Through this process the people will voluntarily organize themselves for the purpose of taking the path toward socialism. In this political struggle the communists will play the leading role. However, at this time in South Vietnam, the political conditions do not exist for the establishment of a socialist system and the PRG as well as communists in both the South and North maintain firmly that they will not and can not "impose" a communist regime in South Vietnam upon the withdrawal of the U.S. Therefore, they agree that the first step to be taken is to establish a genuine democracy in S. Vietnam whereby the people can eventually determine for themselves the social system for their country. This proposal of the PRG for a government of "national concord" is acceptable to the majority of South Vietnamese, including the communists. Whereas it is unacceptable to Nixon and Thieu because they fear such People's Democracy. This is the underlying reason why they continue to rave on about "communist takeover."

Concerning the POW's, this is another scare tactic of Nixon's. He tries to give the impression to people that the Vietnamese are unwilling to discuss the return of U.S. POW's and that they are treating the American pilots badly. In both instances Nixon is lying. Numerous reports confirm that the N. Vietnamese are taking the utmost care to follow all international agreements on the humane treatment of prisoners of war. As far as their release is concerned, this too is spelled out in the 7 Pt. Peace Proposal. The Vietnamese are prepared to begin releasing American POW's as soon as the U.S. agrees to abandon support of Thieu and publicly set a terminal date for complete withdrawal from Vietnam. Once this is done, the POW's will begin to be sent back to the U.S. immediately. The POW release will be coordinated with the withdrawal so that the last POW will be released at the same time as the last US troops/war material leave Vietnam. This is not only a fair and reasonable proposal, it is quite generous considering that many of these pilots could be tried as war criminals for deliberate and genocidal attacks against the civilian population. But of course the Vietnamese realize that the biggest war criminal is their commander and chief, Richard Nixon!

The 7 Point Proposal put forth by the Vietnamese last year contains a reasonable and detailed plan for the peaceful settlement of the Vietnam war. Americans opposed to the war should read carefully the 7 Point Proposal and support it. This is the most concrete and effective means to bring about a just settlement and force a complete U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam.

(continued...)

Responding to the Vietnamese people's aspirations for peace and national independence, considering the American and the world peoples' desire for peace, showing its goodwill to make the Paris Conference on Viet Nam progress, basing itself on the 10-point over-all solution, and following up the September 17, 1970 eight-point and the December 10, 1970 three-point statements, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam declares the following:

1 — REGARDING THE TERMINAL DATE FOR THE TOTAL WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. FORCES.

The U.S. Government must end its war of aggression in Viet Nam, stop the policy of "Vietnamization" of the war, withdraw from South Viet Nam all troops, military personnel, weapons, and war materials of the United States and of the foreign countries in the U.S. camp, and dismantle all U.S. bases in South Viet Nam, without posing any conditions whatsoever.

The U.S. Government must set a terminal date for the withdrawal from South Viet Nam of the totality of U.S. forces and those of the other foreign countries in the U.S. camp.

If the U.S. Government sets a terminal date for the withdrawal from South Viet Nam in 1971 of the totality of U.S. forces and those of the other foreign countries in the U.S. camp, the parties will at the same time agree on the modalities of:

- a) the withdrawal in safety from South Viet Nam of the totality of U.S. forces and those of the other foreign countries in the U.S. camp;
- b) the release of the totality of militarymen of all parties and of the civilians captured during the war (including American pilots captured in North Viet Nam), so that they may all rapidly return to their homes.

These two operations will begin on the same date and will end on the same date.

A cease-fire will be observed between the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces and the armed forces of the United States and of the other foreign countries in the U.S. camp as soon as the parties reach agreement on the withdrawal from South Viet Nam of the totality of U.S. forces and those of the other foreign countries in the U.S. camp.

2 — REGARDING THE QUESTION OF POWER IN SOUTH VIET NAM.

The U.S. Government must really respect the South Viet Nam people's right to self-determination, put an end to its interference in the internal affairs of South Viet Nam, cease to support the bellicose group headed by Nguyen Van Thieu now in office in Saigon, and stop all maneuvers, including tricks on elections, aimed at maintaining the puppet Nguyen Van Thieu.

By various means, the political, social, and religious forces in South Viet Nam aspiring to peace and national concord will form in Saigon a new administration favoring peace, independence, neutrality and democracy. The Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam will immediately enter into talks with that administration in order to settle the following questions:

- a) to form a broad three-segment government of national concord that will assume its functions during the period between the restoration of peace and the holding of general elections and that will organize general elections in South Viet Nam.

A cease-fire will be observed between the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces and the armed forces of the Saigon administration as soon as a government of national concord is formed.

- b) to take concrete measures with the necessary guarantees to prohibit all acts of terror, reprisal and discrimination against persons having collaborated with one or the other party; to ensure every democratic liberty to the South Viet Nam people; to release all persons jailed for political reasons; to dissolve all concentration camps and to liquidate all forms of constraint and coercion so as to permit the people to return to their native places in complete freedom and to freely engage in their occupations.

- c) To see that the people's conditions of living are stabilized and gradually improved, to create conditions allowing everyone to contribute his talents and efforts to heal the war wounds and rebuild the country.

- d) to agree on measures to be taken to ensure the holding of genuinely free, democratic, and fair general elections in South Viet Nam.

3 — REGARDING THE QUESTION OF VIETNAMESE ARMED FORCES IN SOUTH VIET NAM.

The Vietnamese parties will together settle the question of Vietnamese armed forces in South Viet Nam in a spirit of national concord, equality, and mutual respect, without foreign interference, in accordance with the post-war situation and with a view to lightening the people's contributions.

4 — REGARDING THE PEACEFUL RE-UNIFICATION OF VIET NAM AND THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH ZONES.

a) The re-unification of Viet Nam will be achieved step by step, by peaceful means, on the basis of discussions and agreements between the two zones, without constraint and annexation from either party, and without foreign interference.

Pending the re-unification of the country, the North and the South zones will re-establish normal relations, guarantee free movement, free correspondence, free choice of residence, and establish economic and cultural relations on the principle of mutual interests and mutual assistance.

All questions concerning the two zones will be settled by qualified representatives of the Vietnamese people in the two zones on the basis of negotiations, without foreign interference.

b) In keeping with the provisions of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, during the present temporary partition of the country into two zones the North and the South zones of Viet Nam will refrain from joining any military alliance with any foreign countries, from allowing any foreign country to maintain military bases, troops, and military personnel on their soil, and from recognizing the protection of any country or of any military alliance or bloc.

5 — REGARDING THE FOREIGN POLICY OF PEACE AND NEUTRALITY OF SOUTH VIET NAM.

South Viet Nam will pursue a foreign policy of peace and neutrality, establish relations with all countries regardless of their political and social system, in accordance with the five principles of peaceful coexistence, maintain economic and cultural relations with all countries, accept the cooperation of foreign countries in the development of the resources of South Viet Nam, accept the economic and technical aid of any country without any political conditions attached, and participate in regional plans for economic cooperation.

On the basis of these principles, after the end of the war South Viet Nam and the United States will establish relations in the political, economic, and cultural fields.

6 — REGARDING THE DAMAGES CAUSED BY THE UNITED STATES TO THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE IN THE TWO ZONES.

The U.S. Government must bear full responsibility for the losses and the destruction it has caused to the Vietnamese people in the two zones.

7 — REGARDING THE RESPECT AND THE INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEE OF THE ACCORDS TO BE CONCLUDED.

The parties will reach agreement on the forms of respect and international guarantee of the accords that will be concluded.

TO SUM UP:

The struggle of the Vietnamese people against U.S. aggression has been carried on and developed for over 18 years. During the course of that time they have taught and inspired the peoples of the world as they unfolded a resolute and patient fight in defeating the U.S. imperialist strategies one after another. Today, with the Liberation offensive in S. Vietnam, their heroic struggle is in its final stages—the U.S. has been defeated on the military, political and diplomatic fronts. The present offensive will continue until the South is totally liberated and the U.S. is forced to withdraw respecting the self determination of the Vietnamese people. Militarily, during the last three months, the "Vietnamization" program has been destroyed. The Saigon puppet army can no longer be called an effective fighting force, as it is crippled and tied down in three major battlefronts, while the local and regional NLF forces dismantle the hated Thieu administration and liberate one district and province after another. Over 12 million of the 17 million South Vietnamese people are now reorganizing their life in completely liberated areas. Nixon is unable to save the situation despite his barbarian bombing and destruction of both south and north. In fact he further isolates himself with each escalation. His latest orders to bomb and weaken the extensive dike system in North Vietnam could result in massive floods and destruction come the rain season. This is a genocidal war crime of great magnitude and many German fascists were executed after WW II for lesser crimes than this. However, Nixon's most desperate crimes can not defeat the Vietnamese people but rather strengthen their determination to fight till victory.

Politically, the repressive administration of the puppet Thieu is finished—its "authority" can not be reestablished in S. Vietnam no matter how much U.S. military backup. Also the U.S. has exhausted its Vietnamese "puppet reserve" as there is not one Vietnamese both capable and willing to replace Thieu as the next U.S. puppet.

Diplomatically, the 7-point Peace Proposal of the PRG has received resolute backing from the whole socialist camp as well as most non-aligned Third World nations. Within capitalist countries, especially the U.S., large movements are developing in support of the 7 Points. This is a concrete reflection of the desire of the people throughout the world to see an end to U.S. aggression in Indochina and genuine national independence for the South Vietnamese people. The two key PRG demands, 1) U.S. set a date for total withdrawal and 2) U.S. abandon Thieu, have managed to back Nixon into a corner as he continues to refuse to negotiate a settlement with the PRG in Paris against mounting world pressure.

It is not true that the U.S. government is capable of continuing the war in Indochina indefinitely—the end is near. The precious fruits of the long struggle for national liberation are ripening and the Vietnamese people are capable and determined to harvest them no matter what brutal opposition Nixon puts up. In this they will surely be successful.

Our responsibility is to understand and support the struggle of the Vietnamese people. To take a firm stand alongside the Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian peoples against the aggressive policies of the U.S. imperialist government. Our opposition to the war must be translated into concrete actions before it can be termed real political opposition. Our knowledge and support of the 7 Pt. Peace Plan must be demonstrated actively before we can say our struggle and the struggle of the Indochinese people is one. We can learn much from the fine example of our people in the Philippines who have during recent months unfolded massive demonstrations against the U.S. embassy in fraternal support of the just struggle of the Indochinese people against U.S. imperialism.

South

*O South!
Our suffering
Planted in our hearts
Like a bruised tree,
Hands and leaves
Clenched
On the same refusal.*

*Brothers of the mud,
Oblivious of hunger,
Bombs dig away
Into your fields and your flesh,
But in the evening
You read
From the book of life.*

*No demented mill
Can kill the grain.
The light in the forest
Can never be snuffed out
O South!
Crucified
And ever reborn.*

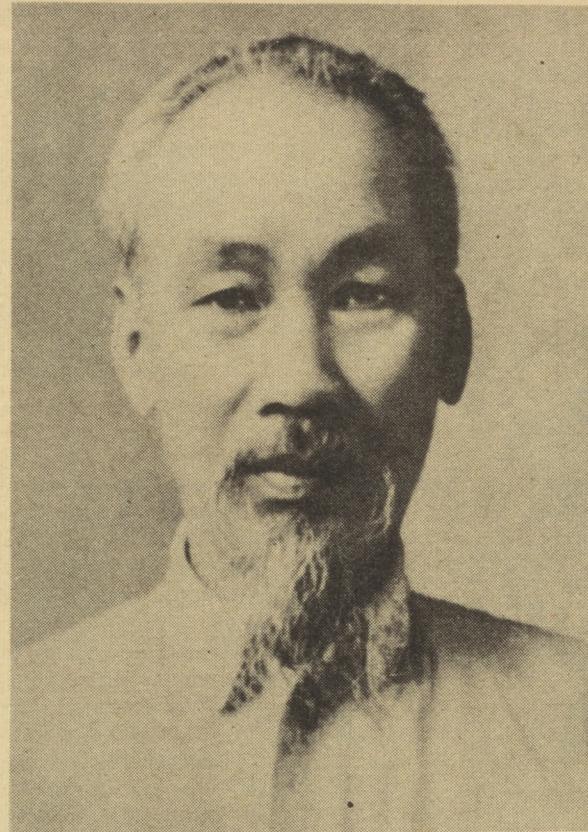
*If there is a line
To plant rice in rows,
If there is a line
To better trace roads,
And build houses,
No line
Shall divide our Fatherland.*

*Vinh Linh,
Crossroads of miseries,
Shall unite our hands of land-tillers.
On the sun of our flags
The same star shines,
Which Ho Chi Minh lighted,
And is still lighting.*

*Ben Tre, Hanoi, Can Tho,
Saigon of the night.
Our rivers and our mountains
Share the same destiny.
The stream of History,
Where a dàn bàu sings,
Flows from North to South.*

*A same revolt,
The colour of our blood,
Demands freedom
For the peoples of the world.
O South!
Our Hope
Throbbing in our hearts.*

BACH LIEN
December 20, 1970



The "Vietnamization" program which has taken 4 years and billions of U.S. tax dollars to construct has been destroyed in 3 months! Within the U.S. the political discontent and opposition to the Indochina war has reached a boiling point. And no one can win and survive as U.S. president while attempting to continue the war for another term—the people will no longer tolerate it.

On the international scene the U.S. aggressive policies in Indochina find little support even within the capitalist camp or among the most servile "puppet" governments. Last ditch efforts of Nixon to get political help from socialist countries has also failed miserably.

As Pilipino people in the U.S. we are not part of the capitalist class that has benefited from this war. We are part of the people who are forced to pay for it and die for it. We have no stake in continuing imperialism and no reason to oppose the National Liberation struggle of the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. As Pilipino people we should organize ourselves to do whatever is necessary to oppose the continuation of this unjust and aggressive war.

SUPPORT THE 7 POINT PROPOSAL OF THE PRG!
"DUMP" THIEU!
SET THE DATE FOR TOTAL WITHDRAWAL!
"DUMP" NIXON!
MAKIBAKA!!

Y.G.C.

AND THE YOUTH

For years there have been no articles that deals with the young brothers and sisters that have been going up to the Youth Guidance Centers. In this sense the YGCs have been able to at will destroy the lives of the youth who go to the centers. This lack of publicity about the YGC is due to the society that suppress the poor people, whose children go to YGC. The Kalayaan feels that this can no longer go on especially with the recent immigration of Filipinos. The Filipino immigration is now the second highest. Along with the immigration comes exposure to what Amerikan society is. It is inevitable that a Pilipino youth will at one time have confrontation with the law. It is with the knowledge that more and more Pilipino youth are being arrested, that this article is being written.

When a youth is busted, the society sees this incident to stop "juvenile delinquency," and a way to keep children from parental neglect or abuse. Society copes with this problem by sending the young people to "rehabilitative" institutions, the Youth Guidance Centers.

Throughout the state of California, there are seven centers. Four are located in the greater Los Angeles area, one in San Francisco, one in Oakland and one in Stockton. These different centers are encompassed within a larger governing body, the California Youth Authority (CYA). The California Youth Authority sets the standards for all the operations of the Youth Guidance Centers in California. The CYA controls the administration of the Juvenile Justice System. This means the CYA controls the Juvenile Court and Probation Departments, and the different Public Agencies that extend from the bureaucracy of the CYA.

YOUTH GUIDANCE CENTERS

Some brothers and sisters who are busted are unaware of what can happen after a bust. They are confused with the operations of the YGC, and are therefore frightened. This is also true with the parents, whose children wind up in YGC. In talking to the parents and the youth, the probation officers talk verbatim from the "book" about "charges" and "probation rulings." One thing that the law book fails to make mention of are the social injustices that accompany the compounding of "charges." To show the injustices that occur, it is necessary to show the procedures that take place after an arrest. These procedures can be separated into different stages. They are 1) Detainment, 2) Hearings, 3) Probation. Each of these periods will be examined to show what occurs in each of the different stages.

After an arrest is made, a record is made of the arrest. The parents are then notified as to the nature of the arrest. A hearing is then scheduled within forty-eight hours to determine whether the arrested youth will go home or stay at the center. Detainment is determined by the seriousness of the "crime." If the offense is considered "serious" then the youth will spend at least two weeks at the detention center. Within two weeks a new hearing is scheduled.

Hearings are something of a trial, except on a lower level and not as complicated. A referee presides over the hearing. Parents must be present in a hearing, and a community aide may be on hand to help explain the procedures of the court. An arrested youth is given a public defender, who had had no time to talk to the youth except usually minutes prior to the hearing. And when the defender does talk to the youth, he just reads off the charges and then proceeds to go into the hearing. Protest can be made, but the referee usually disregards them. This procedure will determine what probation or what actions will be taken in a case.

After the hearing, the youth is usually put on one of three types of probation. These probations are 1) voluntary, 2) 725A, 3) 725B. Probation is primarily to keep a track of the activities of the youth. The probation also becomes the tool of suppression by the YGC. For example: If a certain crime has been reported, the YGC looks up in their records for the youth who may have committed the crime, because of a youth's records. In this fashion the youth is constantly harassed by the police for a crime he may have no knowledge of. Yet everytime the youth is picked up by the pigs as a "suspect" for a crime, new records are made. Due to this harassment and intimidation, the youth's records are compiling more "crime" charges than the youth has actually committed (if any).

One type of probation that a youth is put on is the voluntary probation. This probation is usually given to a youth whose offense isn't serious in the "eyes of the law." If this is the first offense, this is when the youth will be assigned his or her first probation officer. This type of probation usually does not need a court hearing. The case is discussed by the probation officer and the parents outside of the court. In voluntary probation the youth may receive a maximum of six months probation or less.

Unlike the voluntary probation, probation 725A and 725B are considered the more serious probations. In probation 725A a court hearing has to take place, because of the "seriousness" of the crime. This probation also does not exceed a period of six months. There is usually a monthly appointment that must be kept in order for the probation officer to know what the youth is doing. The youth in this case is not considered a "ward" of the courts. Being a "ward" of the courts, means that the courts have found the youth so "perverse," that the court must now be guardian of the youth.

The probation that most third world youth are put on is probation 725B. Probation 725B means that the probation can last until the youth becomes eighteen years of age. This probation also means that the youth is a "ward" of the court. Being a Ward of the court subjects the youth to any action the court wills, and very "close supervision" by the probation officer. Close supervision means having to go to appointments with the probation officers anytime he sees fit to check up on the youth's activities. A youth on 725B may be sent to isolated CYA institutions for further "discipline" if he does not "conform" in the regular youth centers. This probation also paves the way for the youth to be sent to regular prisons when he reaches the age of eighteen.

To have a more vivid understanding of who is put into probations and the juvenile centers it is necessary to understand who are the youths that get busted. In San Francisco last year, out of 100% of all youths busted, 87.2% were third world youth. This leaves 12.8% white kids who were busted. From the 87.2% of the third world youth who were busted, 82.3% were Blacks, 2.9% were Chicano, 2.0% were Asians. The majority of the third world youth busted were from the ages of 16 to 20 years old. After release from the juvenile centers, 46.1% of the youth would again be busted and brought back.

The youth guidance center in its efforts to "rehabilitate" the youth who have been busted have implemented different programs to counter the "delinquent" behavior. One of these programs is the recreational program. This program is one where the youths at YGC are taken to field trips, campouts, bowling, museum trips, etc. The YGC terms this program as a type of "Behavior Modification" approach, whereby students are rewarded with an interesting activity if they maintain attendance in the classroom. In the YGC annual report it states: "A Thursday evening recreational program is now in operation in the recreation room of the Mission Street facility. Supervision is provided by a parole agent and the Group Supervisor, with other agents frequently participating. About 15-20 youngsters attend each week and transportation is provided for some, but for others, the only transportation available is with the local bus system, which requires considerable motivation on the part of the wards who wish to participate."

Concerning the recreational program, a report states, "In this regard, agents have maintained constant contact with wards and their families and have participated extensively in all field trips and recreational activities sponsored by the center. Agents see camping trips, beach trips and other mutually shared activities as effective therapeutic devices."

It is always good for the young people to get to leave the city for campouts and hikes. Still, this should not be seen as optimistically as the report would put it. In terms of having a wide range of participation from the youth, the recreational program fails. To think that 15 to 20 people participating in a program can be termed "successful" is shortsighted. Fifteen or twenty people does not even represent 5% of the youth in YGC, and for a matter of fact it doesn't even prove that it has established any degree of rapport with the communities. The YGC people used the word "therapeutic" in its description of the recreational program. The word "therapeutic" infers that something is wrong with the young people without regard to their social and economic background. The disease is not in the young people, but in the conditions that they as third world people and poor people are forced to live in. In reality after a trip to the country, these young people must return to the YGC centers and communities. Back to the same conditions in the communities that sent them to YGC in the first place. Why is it that these youth have to get busted before they get to go on camping trips? Why couldn't this happen on a regular basis with their family?

The YGC has also established its educational program. They have a center school and it is located in one room of a large multi-storyed structure located on Geary Street. The academically oriented program is based on a 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. school day. The youths released from institutions who are expected to attend an academic program are automatically enrolled in the center school until such time as they are considered "adaptive" to a public school setting. An average of ten wards per month were enrolled in the center school during 1969-70 school year. Additionally, cooperative arrangements were made with public school administrators, whereby center wards who are having difficulty "making it" in the public school setting can be transferred to the center school for a "cooling off" period. And if his "adjustment" report indicates progress, the student can then be returned to the public schools. The teaching staff presently consists of two full-time and one Group Supervisor. One teaching position was vacant through the major part of the 1969-70 session.

This educational program presumes that the public schools are so fine that they are worth returning to. For many third world youth who live in the "barrios and ghettos" of this country, education is a farce. The quality of it (or lack of quality), its irrelevance to their lives and experience and its general depressing atmosphere, all go to make school a drag. The schools themselves are overcrowded, usually old and rundown like so many other buildings in the community, with insensitive teachers (mostly white with different class backgrounds and experience) few of whom ever live in the community.

Education in the U.S. is taught from a white racist perspective with white middle class values, morals and standards. The history that has been taught about this country is a distortion of the truth. For non-white people their history for the most part has been a lie, starting with the American Indian. For Pilipino people in the U.S., our history is barely even mentioned in school books.

JUSTICE FOR 3RD WORLD YOUTH

As the statistic shows the program only attracts a small number of the youths. Who are the youths that participate in the recreational program? Are these the youth that the YGC feels are good enough to take a chance with? What about the youth the YGC has deemed "uncontrollable?" Where do these people go, and what do they get to do in terms of having any kind of recreation?

The "uncontrollable" youths are sent to correctional institutions, like Hidden Valley and Log Cabin. Both ranches are located in San Mateo County, 52 miles from San Francisco, inaccessible by any kind of public transportation. Hidden Valley, which is adjacent to Log Cabin, was opened in 1967, it has two dormitories with 100 beds for boys 11 to 14 years of age. Log Cabin has one large dormitory for 86 people, 15 to 18 years of age, and is generally used to capacity. There is no physician or nurse in residence. A doctor comes from La Honda once a week for sick-call and is on call for emergencies. Youth who are ill or have an accident have to be brought in to the city for treatment. The counselors who reside at Hidden Valley and Log Cabin have no medical background, but are at leisure to dispense medication, and determine who needs medical attention.



"Been Down So Long..."

In Hidden Valley 77% of the population is Black, while 23% non-black. In Log Cabin 52% are Black, while 48% are non-black.

In the category of non-black the statistics fail to show who the non-blacks are. The non-black statistics were not broken down into Asians, Chicanos and other minorities. The programs at Log Cabin are a half-school, half-work program. The work part of the program consists of tending pigs, milking cows, and pasteurizing milk. At Hidden Valley the program utilizes an Indian Culture system where the boys come in as Scouts, graduate to Braves and then to Indian Chiefs, except when they goof-up and then are busted down to papooses.

How can milking cows and playing the racist Indian games be relevant in Central City, The Mission, Hunters Point, the Fillmore or Chinatown!

The discriminatory sorting out of white boys to private institutions and foster homes and third world youth into ranches and CYA institutions are quite evident. For example, statistics show that in Foster Homes 66% are non-black and 33% are Black. In private institutions 75% non-black and 25% are Black.

As for the effectiveness of the "rehabilitation" programs of Hidden Valley and Log Cabin a statistic showed their relevance. In Log Cabin, from the 145 youths committed, 77 or 53% were not "rehabilitated." In Hidden Valley, of the 105 youths committed, 81 or 77% of the youths were not "rehabilitated." As with all correctional institutions there are rules and regulations. For example: 1) Only parents or legal guardians are allowed to visit, and brothers or sisters under nine years of age. 2) All letters are controlled or censored. 3) Watches, sunglasses, radios, and cameras are contraband.

Who are the probation officers that are assigned to third world youth? In most cases they are white probation officers. They belong to the middle class of America, who know very little of what life is in the barrios and ghettos of this country. These probation officers are people who have gone thru college and acquired their credentials indicating they are capable of understanding a problem. A point that must be mentioned is that the colleges they got their degrees from, teach from a white racist perspective on how to deal with third world problems.

Out of 100 probation officers in YGC in San Francisco there are 17 third world probation officers. The third world probation officers themselves usually come from middle class backgrounds. Primarily the third world probation officers were put there to alleviate the barriers of communications and identifications. Due to the racist society, the Third World probation officers who are working in the Youth Guidance Centers are only token. How can a third world youth who speaks another language more fluently than English, relate to a third world probation officer who speaks nothing but English. How can a third world youth be expected to relate to a probation officer who is third world but acts white. (This problem is very true for the Pilipino youths in YGC.) There is an adage that says "experience enhances one's understanding of life." Not so in the case of these probation officers. Instead of understanding and having empathy toward the youths, they turn cold and bitter with the young people, for taking up their time.

(Migrants continued from pg. 9) reports in 1965 that the unemployment rate is close to 10 percent of the labor force of about 10 million (government statistics). It probably is considerably higher than this. Visible underemployment, consisting mostly of part-time workers about 12% of the work force since 1960, and invisible underemployment, consisting of employed persons many of whose functions were redundant, together, both categories were estimated at over 27% of the total work force in 1967.

SO LONG AS THE PHILIPPINES REMAINS A NEO-COLONY WITH AN UNDERDEVELOPED AND LOPSIDED ECONOMY, THE MASSIVE FLIGHT OF PILIPINOS FROM THEIR HOMELAND IS BOUND TO CONTINUE.

Given the growth rate of population and the continued concentration of the social wealth of the nation in the privileged hands of a parasite minority, plus the huge super-profits remitted to the U.S. by corporations and banks operating in the Philippines . . . all these point to the fact that the unemployment situation is bound to worsen. Between 1956 and 1964, the number of officially recorded unsuccessful jobseekers varied between 618,000 and 1,182,000 annually. Approximately 400,000 young people under 19 years of age terminate their studies each year without finding steady employment. In 1968, there were 3 million youths in this category.

The likelihood that the job market in the Philippines will improve in the near future is quite slim. The international monetary and balance of trade crisis facing the capitalist camp resulting in the weakening of the U.S. dollar lead directly to the devaluation of the Philippine peso. Immediately the prices of all prime commodities soared by nearly 40% while wages inched up only by 10-15%. The situation is further aggravated by the growing political and economic crisis now affecting the puppet government in Manila. Especially now under the regime of Marcos where the phony facade of "democracy" is being torn away and reactionary and fascist terror stands in the

SOCIETY KEEPS YOUTH IRRESPONSIBLE

In a society that rejects its elders, it is quite possible that it will also reject its young. A society which has set a limit of sixty-five as the maximum age of productivity, is the same society which has set twenty-one years as the age to begin productivity. So what happens to the people eighteen to twenty years old. These are the people who are old enough to fight a war for the government but too young to find a good job. These people in this age group becomes one of the expendable individuals, but as a group they are important in the labor production of this country. These youths become part of the Reserve Army of Labor. For third world youths, some never even get into the regular labor force. If they do get a job, it's only for six months or less, then they are again back into the reserve army of labor. Capitalism perpetuates a cycle that treats human beings as a commodity. Capitalism uses the reserve army of labor to keep competition high and wages low, so that the corporations can capitalize on cheap labor to gain as much profit as possible. Blatant exploitation and massive unemployment is predominant among young third world brothers and sisters. Because of the lack of any real opportunities, third world youths eventually end up joining the armed forces, doing menial tasks, or going to jail.

For the people younger than eighteen years of age, life is just as hard. They can't get jobs, because they're too young. So they go to school and all the while are subjected to racist lies and actions. Just as convalescent homes are made to dump old people in, juvenile centers are made likewise made for these youths.

Due to this country's economic and social interest, many of the young people of the ghettos find themselves aimlessly wandering the streets. The alternatives in the street are few, one of them and very prevalent among the young, is drugs. Drugs and liquor have always been a part of the lives of poor people. Drugs will dull the pain of living conditions the young live in (temporarily).

In an annual report of the Youth Guidance Center it states: "the social and psychological deprivations experienced by the majority of the "wards" have produced delinquent life styles in which suspicion of adult and authority figures is paramount." First of all, one cannot separate social and psychological aspects of behavior as being two different things. Whatever conditions a youth lives under, will surely affect his understanding of the world around him. An example: If a child lives with seven people in a room, then certain rights of the youth cannot be received, because of the size of the family. This right may come in the form of parental love, or individual attention. If the child does not receive these rights, then it will affect his attitude psychologically. The youth may have disdain for his parents or any adult because of the lack of guidance and affection shown him.

The youth authorities show ignorance in their report, in which the youths show hostility towards them. What they fail to see is that there is a process that leads to such a contempt of authority. This process is the day to day life that the youth is faced with. A third world youth is faced daily with racist oppression. He feels this first of all in school. There would be an "advanced" class of students, predominantly white. Another class, the "remedial" class, mostly third world students. In the racist school system the "authority" treats the "advanced" students righteously, while treating the "remedial" students with contempt. The same young person begins to understand the problems his parents have faced all their lives. He begins to sense that there is a ruling class, (capitalist) that dictates the lives of poor people in this country.

clear light of day with democratic and progressive forces being jailed and shot down in the streets for protesting against the blatant injustices of Phillipine society. The Philippines is becoming known as one of those "unstable" areas for capitalist investments. Consequently, the growing rate of emigration from the country is sure to continue.

Early in this century, Pilipinos originating from the peasant class migrated to Hawaii and the West Coast primarily for employment opportunities when Hawaii and the West Coast needed field hands for expanding its agricultural industries (agri-business). They were mostly deceived by "promises" of high wages, good working conditions, etc. The reality they found contradicted all their expectations. However, since the colonial conditions back home did not warrant any improvement in their position if they returned, most of them settled in this country, many cherishing the illusion that they have already "made it," that they have succeeded in this "golden land of opportunity." There are also immense numbers of Pilipinos who left their homeland to work as laborers at the military bases in Guam (estimated at 13,000 Pilipinos) and another 10,000 working in other military projects, not counting the Pilipino servicemen in the U.S. Navy (probably close to 50,000) who work as cooks, cabin-boys, and perform other menial jobs for a pittance.

ALL MAJOR PILIPINO IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA MUST BE TRACED TO U.S. COLONIALISM/IMPERIALISM AND THE MASSIVE DISRUPTIVE AND RETARDING EFFECTS IT HAS HAD ON PHILIPPINE SOCIETY AND ECONOMY. CONSEQUENTLY THE ONLY EFFECTIVE SOLUTION TO THE PILIPINO IMMIGRATION "PROBLEM" IS THE EXPULSION OF U.S. IMPERIALISM FROM THE PHILIPPINES AND THE CREATION OF A GENUINELY NATIONAL AND DEMOCRATIC PHILIPPINES.

A common racist lie said about third world parents are that "they are irresponsible, and unable to control their kids. If you have lazy parents, you'll have lazy children." This is a statement that racists spout out with because of their ignorance. Usually in the third world and poor white families, both parents have to work long hours in order to make a wage that is just enough for their families to survive on. The parents must work long hours and because there are no day care centers and no good schools with constructive programs for young people; it puts heavy strains on the family life and structure. I.e., the parents are often unable to go out to a picnic, a vacation, or do anything together with the family and this causes strain and resentment among the individuals within the family.

Realizing the need to have programs in the community, people have set up different community centers. Community centers are an effort to counter some of the injustices the YGC and all other racist institutions perpetuate. These community centers are staffed by people who truly understand the community they serve. There are Youth Law Centers, Real Alternatives Program (RAP), United Filipino Youth Organization (UFYO). These organizations help in giving legal assistance to the youths and families that are dealing with the YGC. They also provide a drop-in center for the youth in the streets. There are community centers that provide educational programs like the Filipino Action Coalition. Other community centers are the Huckleberries, Half-way houses, etc. These organizations all help in trying to alleviate some of the day to day problems of the youth in their communities and have proved to be valuable programs.

There is now a movement for the different communities to take care of their own problems. It is obvious that the racist system in Amerika wants to keep the third world people from gaining any kind of self determination. So the people are kept socially and economically deprived. Racism is used to keep us scared and disorganized. Youth Guidance Centers are used to perpetuate racist ideas. The YGC authorities keep silent about the inadequacy and the injustice that prevail in the centers. (Just as prison authorities remain silent about prison conditions) They give tacit approval to the oppressive conditions that third world youth are forced to live through at the ranches and other correctional institutions. The youth authorities are afraid of exposure, because it will educate the people of the conditions in YGC. It is only the consciousness of the people about the injustices of YGC that will be the power to force needed reforms in the institution.

We must unite and fight for better life for all working class people. We must also fight to destroy the "root" social conditions that produce Youth Guidance Centers in this country. Our brothers and sisters cry for help in the youth centers, these same cries can also be heard in our communities. We must unite on the basis of being part of the working class and struggle against the capitalist system that keep our people and all third world and working people oppressed.

Makibaka Huwag Matakot!
Dare to struggle! Dare to Win!

Today still thousands of Pilipino professionals originating from the hard pressed Pilipino middle class are again leaving their homeland to go to America and other countries in search of work. The root cause of this continued mass migration of Pilipino people can only be traced to U.S. imperialism and all the social and economic dislocations caused by the U.S. domination of Philippine society. U.S. imperialism has created the lopsided neo-colonial economy of the Philippines that can display the incredible contradiction of being underdeveloped and backward on the one hand, yet on the other hand, having an "excess" of highly educated youth that can not be utilized at home for the development of the country! Mass exodus to the U.S. is also a reflection of the colonial heritage where the U.S. dominated Philippine society culturally and ideologically.

However the times are changing and the prospects for U.S. imperialism are looking dim while the struggle of nations for self-determination and national, democratic revolution is growing stronger. In Asia the U.S. is particularly hard pressed. In the Philippines during the recent years, the growing anti-U.S. anti-imperialist consciousness among the people is quite evident. It is becoming very clear to the masses of people that the major obstacle to the creation of a truly independent, democratic and prosperous Philippines is U.S. imperialism and its local Pilipino allies . . . the landlords, compradors and corrupt bureaucrat capitalists.

The pressing problems of large scale unemployment and underemployment in the Philippines leading to increased poverty as well as the current massive migration of Pilipino professionals to the U.S. can never be fully understood apart from an understanding about imperialism. Difficult problems do not warrant easy solutions. . . . Basic problems require fundamental solutions. . . . Imperialist problems demand revolutionary solutions!!!

ONWARD WITH THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION!!!!

COMMUNITY NEWS

KALAYAAN page 13

After eight days of travel on the Cuban vessel the *30th of November*, the fifth contingent of the Venceremos Brigade arrived in Canada on May 12, 1972. This marked the end of a two month stay in Cuba for 140 young North Americans, 20 of whom are from the Bay Area.

The fifth contingent participated in constructing housing units, which are a part of an integrated social plan located in Havana province to provide better housing for Cuban workers. These brigadistas (meaning "member of a brigade") worked 8 hours a day, six days a week (½ day on Saturday) for 6 weeks. Their spare time was divided among presentations by both Cubans and North Americans, informal talks, visits, etc. After the six week work

The Brigade's broad objectives are to heighten anti-imperialist consciousness in the people of the U.S. and to promote solidarity with the Cuban Revolution. We attempt to provide some substantial knowledge about underdevelopment, the legacy of imperialism and to encourage a solidarity with the struggles of the Third World.

The 5th contingent marks a new stage of the Brigade project. Previously, the production work of the Brigade in Cuba was in agriculture which requires little co-ordination or detailed planning. The 5th contingent worked in housing construction which requires less physical perseverance than cane-cutting or fruit-picking but more self-discipline and creative initiative due to the complexity of the project.



A Pilipino Kasama from KALAYAAN just came from Cuba on this particular Brigade. An extensive article on Cuban education will be written for the next issue. On the right is a billboard found in Cuba which commemorates the eleventh anniversary of the first U.S. defeat in Latin America particularly in Playa Giron (Bay of Pigs).

period, the Brigade traveled throughout the island for two weeks meeting with the Cuban people and visiting hospitals, factories, schools, agricultural and industrial centers, cities, towns and villages.

There have been five contingents thus far; the first was in 1969. Altogether, about 2,000 youths have gone through the brigade process which includes approximately 300 young adults from the Bay Area.

The Brigade has always been multiracial and encompasses all ages above 18, however the 18-25 age group predominates. Slightly over one-half of the total number of brigadistas have been women.

The brigade is not a Cuban project, even though the most important part of the process takes place in Cuba. As a North American project, the Cubans act as host during the 8 week period on the island.

In the past the Brigade's work has been misunderstood by many people. The governmental authorities have been trying to paint the Brigade as a guerrilla training program—but the Brigade has no military program whatsoever. Often, the Brigade is viewed as a "tourist agency" to Cuba. However, all of the tours to Cuba for the purpose of investigation and study are arranged by the Cubans themselves, not by any third party.

This reflects a change in Cuba. The mass mobilizations of earlier years are giving way to mass organizing which has enabled the Cuban people to tackle more complex tasks. *Confederation Trabajadore Cubana*, the Cuban labor union, has been considerably strengthened so that Cuban workers can take active charge of socialist construction. This work will presumably lead to comprehensive economic planning in a few years. "Micro-brigades" are organized all over the island as a response to the new complexity of the Cuban economy. The Brigade takes these changes realities of Cuban socialism and moves to broaden and deepen Brigade activities.

Until the departure of the 6th contingent, Brigade work will center around distributing information about Cuba and the Latin American seminar through slides, film showings, articles and speaking engagements. In July the Brigade will be holding celebrations nationally to commemorate the launching of the Cuban Revolution on July 26, 1953. Preparation is also underway for the 6th Brigade which will leave some time within the year. Notices concerning the 6th contingent will be announced as plans become definite.

The present is struggle.
The future is ours.
Venceremos!

A "Filipino Fiesta" to celebrate the Filipino elders who came to America in the 1920s and 30s and paved the way for later immigrants, will be held Sunday, May 28, at 2:00 p.m. The site for the fiesta is S. King Street between 5th and 6th Avenues.

A program will feature guest speakers, including Trinidad Rojo, lecturer in Philippine culture and history at the University of Washington, Chris Mensalvas, member of the ILWU Local No. 37 Board of Trustees, and Sabino Cabilio, director of the International Drop-In Center. Also slated are the Immaculata Dance Troupe under the direction of Dolly Castillo, Philippine arts and crafts, folk music, and delicacies and sweets prepared by many Filipino mothers in the community.

Fr. Manuel Ocana himself, who will arrive from the Philippines, might preside over the festivities.

The fiesta is jointly sponsored by the International Drop-In Center and The Filipino Community of Seattle, Inc.

OUTCRY

(from KAIBIGAN)

As a Coalition of Pilipinos we are raising our voices in unity with our Vietnamese sisters and brothers against the atrocities being carried out by U.S. imperialism in Indochina today. As Pilipinos we are conscious of the quest for national liberation and self-determination by Asian peoples. In the Philippine-American War of 1899-1906 our own revolutionary people struggled for these two national goals against the imperialism of the United States government. Our people were denied their national liberation and independence by a dictatorship of American imperialists and the bourgeois reactionaries and liberals among our own people who sided with the Americans. The United States is attempting in Indochina, as in our motherland, to thwart all wars of national liberation being fought by people seeking self-determination and independence from imperialism. The Pilipino people stand in support of the Vietnamese people's National Liberation Front (NLF) and the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) and their seven points to end the war. Further, we demand that the U.S. government end its genocidal aggression against our Asian sisters and brothers in Indochina.

We call upon all Pilipinos to renounce their silence and to raise the might of our voices with the millions of the masses. We denounce the United States' criminal international outlaw tactics against the revolutionary peoples seeking national liberation and independence.

MABUHAY ANG KALAYAAN!
Pilipino Coalition to End Imperialism
San Diego, California

On May 1, 1972 the Filipino Youth Activities, Inc. moved their offices. The new location is at 1608 Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor (the St. Peter Claver Center Building). The telephone number is 323-6545.

NO MORE PANCAKES

Two Asian American non-profit community organizations, *Chinese Awareness* and *Gidra*, Inc., are sponsoring their first annual fund raising chow mein fun brunch. Both *Gidra* and *Chinese Awareness* are monthly publications which concern themselves with the Asian American experience and community news.

Chinese Awareness is a Chinatown-based organization and monthly bi-lingual publication directed towards informing and educating the Chinese community about the institutions which affect their lives. *Gidra* offers the Asian community an opportunity to learn about itself, relevant issues and shared experiences through an alternate communications medium not ordinarily provided by other medias.

Both organizations have an all volunteer staff comprised of students and community workers; both are partially funded by the UCLA Asian American Studies Center but rely primarily on community support; and both organizations are not only involved in the publication of a monthly newspaper but provide services for the Asian American community at large such as art and community workshops, other publications, English as a second language classes and community film showings.

The fun brunch is scheduled for Sunday, June 18, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Senshin Buddhist Church, 1336 N. 36th Place (2 blocks east of Normandie Ave.) Tickets are priced at \$1.00 each and may also be obtained at the fun brunch. Further information and tickets may be obtained by calling 734-7838 or 680-0876.

A CALL FOR UNITY

KAPATIDS'

MAGSAMAHAN TAYO SA KILUSAN! Easily said, but getting together or getting organized is the greatest problem of we, the Pilipino people. When trying to organize a group there are those of us with these ego trips and disagreements and thus everyone in the group wants to become the president of the group. But in doing so we fail to see that we are splitting our groups, creating factions, and thus losing our cause. Another great problem of we Pilipinos organizing is our generalizations of our very own people; that is, if your family is from a certain area of the islands we Pilipinos automatically will generalize that you and your family will act in a certain manner and attitude supposedly practiced from that area. So within your subconscious mind you have this stigma or stereotype of that individual, for example, all

Illocanos eat goat intestines, all Moros are Muslims, all Pampangans are Hucks, and that all Tagalogs are not vigorous workers and are lazy. This is one of the probable reasons why we Pilipinos are always hearing "Prom what part ob da Philippines are you prom?" Although the question sounds innocent and lacks suspicion, it is not always meant only as a question of where you are from but also subconsciously a question as to how you will act. I feel as Pilipinos we should get out of this clique and stand united as one people working together hand in hand and then perhaps we can as United Pilipinos do as well as say: MASAMAHAN TAYO SA KILUSAN!

Nathaniel Floro Omingo
Asian American Studies-Pilipino
California State University,
Long Beach



Realizing the crucial role that the anti-war movements has played in the past, we feel more concerted efforts have marked significant changes in the nature of mass-based demonstrations. It has clearly pointed out the basic contradictions of Nixon's collapsing Vietnamization policy and the plans of new escalations.

In response to the U.S. escalation of the war, the current offensive of the National Liberation Front (NLF) in South Vietnam clearly demonstrates the bankruptcy of the bombings of Hanoi, Haiphong, and the blockade of Haiphong Harbor. In the United States, our responsibility is to actively protest against further escalations and support the people of Vietnam's PRG (Provisional Revolutionary Government) Seven Point Peace Plan. Throughout various major cities, actions as rallies and national student strikes are beginning to bear positive political pressures to bring out the relationship of the atrocities by U.S. imperialism in Indochina and throughout Third World countries. It calls on our people to become aware of the necessity to actively participate in anti-war protests and to see the relationship to the hidden truths of oppression, racism, and economic symptoms which affect our lives here.

APRIL 22 RALLY

On April 22, the Bay Area Coalition, which is comprised of well over thirty anti-imperialist, anti-war groups, sponsored a short march from Baker and Fell streets to a mass-based rally held at Kezar Stadium in San Francisco. The march was led by a contingent of Vietnamese and active duty GIs; followed by many groups carrying banners, placards, and flags in support of the Vietnamese struggle. The Asian contingent was forefronted with the banner: "ASIANS IN SUPPORT OF THE PRG 7 POINT PEACE PLAN." They highlighted the march with a lively snake dance accompanied by unison chants as: "HO, HO, HO CHI MINH, THE NLF IS GONNA WIN!" Over seventy-five Chinese, Japanese, and Pilipinos linked arm-in-arm in expressing zealous efforts of unity - e.g., shared chants from different languages and symbols of struggle. The KALAYAAN banner and shouts of "MAKIBAKA, HUWAG MATAKOT," rallied the thirty Pilipino participants.

The short speeches made at the rally included special telephone calls from Madame Binh (negotiator for the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam), Xuan Thuy (head of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam delegation in Paris), and Angela Davis, all of whom addressed ourselves to the importance of active support of the PRG 7-point program and reiterated Nixon's vicious war policy.

Concurrently with the rally, booths encircling the Stadium, representative of 125 groups, displayed colorful political education materials (literature, posters), films and slide shows. The relevant discussions which ensued on multi-issues confronting our movement projected the growing conscientious work that is being done in the Bay Area.

WE AS ONE

The rally was successful because over 35,000 people, from all walks of life, demonstrated in support of an end to U.S. aggression in Indochina. The three unifying points of: (a) to support the PRG 7-point peace program; (b) an end of U.S. interference in the internal affairs of any country as well as (c) an end to Nixon's policies of economic, political, racist and sexist repression - most importantly points out that there are many fronts against U.S. imperialism but we are one in struggle.

WHY PILIPINO INVOLVEMENT?

An example of the process which took place for the April 22 event bring out critical points for mobilizing our communities. Leafletting as "Pilipinos Support the 7 Point Peace Proposal," announcing the demonstration and its relevancy by teach-ins was done only toward few convening weeks before the actual day. The vast areas of coverage of the events had brought only a small percentage of our comrade to discussions film showings held at Bayanihan Pilipino Youth Center and I Wor Kuen Chinese community center. More consistent methods of publicizing and propagating information of national and local issues needs to be developed. Of those who had attended the teach-ins, the majority came to actively march and support the Asian booths as the U.S. China, Vietnam Friendship Associations, I Work Kuen, Kalayaan, J-Town Collective. Further handout material was passed out by the KALAYAAN table which gave the historical and political ramifications of the Philippines being the first Vietnam and its current situation in the midst of national democratic liberation struggles today.

Directing ourselves to the Asians' level of participation in developing into a strong and active sector with the U.S. movement, we must see the importance of concretely bringing the victories of our comrades in Indochina to our homefronts. One critical area to relate the valuable experiences of struggle is to actively create vehicles that will enable us to channel our efforts to making struggle a reality. In terms of rallies against the war which gravely recalls to our minds the historical developments of fighting foreign aggression and now against United States imperialism, we see the importance of educating our communities of unity.

Pilipino support is of utmost importance and it is particularly essential to demonstrate our opposition to the war by actively participating in teach-ins, organizing rallies, and communication networks. Our brothers and sisters involved in daily struggle in Asia is an exemplary example of how we are responsible for creating and sustaining tasks of building strong foundations to destroy the Enemy.

This resolute action promotion by the serious Asian participants has marked initial efforts in creating the viable tool, i.e., the Bay Area Asian Coalition Against the War (BAACAW). This newly formed coalition encompasses many student and community based sectors from San Francisco, the Peninsula, San Jose-Santa Clara, Berkeley and Oakland. The central points of unity are established on (a) to oppose the Nixon administration and (b) to support the PRG 7-point peace program.

The concrete plans of actions will be to develop a speakers bureau on Vietnam, as breaking down what is the PRG 7-point program, its relation to us; organizing regional study groups and action on the war; having films and photo displays and to participate in mass demonstrations against the war.



In setting the tasks in educating the community, a newsletter is being published on a regular basis. The Bay Area Asian Coalition Against the War has a main office in San Francisco - at 1516 A Post Street - temporary phone number - 567-7029. We must support this potentially progressive coalition and encourage more comrades to actively assist them in our efforts to develop a vigilant, thorough communication network to our Asian communities.

The responsibility of our power lays in the strength of the people, not in the hands or technical weapons of the oppressor.



A MESSAGE

My name is Paul S. Bagnas. I was a commissioned officer of the United States Army infantry and served as a 1st Lt. in Vietnam from June 1966 to June 1967. It was my intention to be a career officer and to make the military my career as so many Pilipinos have done. In the middle of my tour in Vietnam I submitted my resignation as an individual act of protest against the war.

During the first half of my tour in Vietnam I realized that the war the United States is waging in Indochina was an attempt to deny the Vietnamese people their national liberation. Further, that it was a war aimed at maintaining the status quo in southern Vietnam where U.S. imperialism maintained a government of unpopular and corrupt generals. In truth, the people of southern Vietnam were and are still being denied their self-determination. This can be evidenced today by the PRG and the NLF and their dedication to struggle against U.S. imperialism. I became aware of the Vietnamese people and their commitment and strength of spirit and courage. Many other things began to bother me and today I recognize that those thorns were the racist, sexist and imperialist attitudes extended, by the white male-dominated society of Northamerica, towards my Asian sisters and brothers.

As I have become aware of the truth of my own culture and history since I returned from the war I know that this war is just an extension of U.S. attempts to dominate and exploit the people of Asia and the Pacific. The 600,000 noble revolutionary people of the Philippines who were murdered by U.S. imperialism during the Philippine-American War, in 1898, and the 1,000,000 men, women, and children dead in Indochina shows clearly the racist and imperialist nature of U.S. conduct in Asia.

Therefore, I call upon the Pilipino people and all people to oppose the actions of the U.S. government in Indochina and to demand a ceasing of the murder of children, women and men who are of our Asian blood. We cannot ignore our history which is similar to the experience of the Vietnamese people today.



We must remember that our national liberation and independence was savagely put down as it is being barbarously done today in Southeast Asia. I ask that you join with many Pilipinos and myself in support of the PRG and their Seven Point Peace plan and renounce the policies of the U.S. government. We must uphold the spirit and principles of the KATIPUNAN, of Andres Bonifacio and Mabini, and of the masses of our people in Vietnam as in the Philippines.

MAY 12

Further participation at the May 12 noon rally held at Union Square was viewed by 5,000 student, community and office workers from the surrounding financial hub in San Francisco. It presented vivid protests against Nixon's blockade and of Rockefeller, Reagan, Dole, Goldwater attendance for a Nixon campaign luncheon at the plush San Francis Hotel. Leafletting to explain the rally and supporting the PRG's 7-point program was circulated during the activities of on-going speeches, particularly made by Vietnamese students and a representative from the Bay Area Asian Coalition.

ASIAN PRE-RALLY

An earlier Chinatown based Asian contingency rally of 500 community people, coupled with speeches from Chinese, Pilipino, Japanese, Vietnamese, and Palestinian representatives reiterating the imperialistic, racist, genocidal nature of the war; and firmly supporting the PRG 7-point program, sparked active marching and chanting through Chinatown. An effigy of U.S. puppet Chiang Kai-shek was burnt in the front of the KMT office before merging in the Union Square rally. A significant point of the rally was that the marching of the gathered demonstrators was led by the Asian contingent.

FURTHER REPERCUSSIONS

Recognizing the area of involvement, within the business district, horses mounted, tac squad, and footed police were called in to disband the demonstration. As a result of actual confrontation by some of the demonstrators and spectators, 60 people were arrested. Many had dispersed after being visually or physically intimidated by the police.

The Asians, seeing the importance of summing up the day's experiences continued at I Wor Kuen, nearby Chinese community center, to discuss more in depth the need of more Asian participation. There was a general criticism of not informing the surrounding Asian communities to the events held in Chinatown and not seriously being sensitive to the communities constituting working class people and families.

FARMWORKERS DEFEAT

In our last issue, Kalayaan printed an article about the Republican-dominated NLRB's (National Labor Relations board) attack on the United Farmworkers AFL-CIO. Recently, a major victory for the farmworkers has been won. On April 4th, the NLRB withdrew its petition for an injunction restricting farmworkers boycotts that was pending hearing in a Fresno court. Negotiations were then entered into by the farmworkers and on April 28th union leader Cesar Chavez held a National Press Conference and announced that a settlement had been reached with the NLRB, the Republican Party, and the Free Marketing Council (representing the lettuce growers).

NLRB

The NLRB was established by the National Labor Relations Act (Wagner Act) to protect labor unions in their struggle with management. While affording protection and collective bargaining power for unions, under the NLRA labor unions are not allowed to use the consumer boycott. Now, Agribusiness finds it advantageous to have the laws of the NLRA apply to the farmworkers, thereby restricting their boycott rights. However, in a clear show of their exploitative nature, Agribusiness wants at the same time to deny the farmworkers the rights and protections that would be gained under the NLRA. The NLRB is able to twist the law in this manner by employing a technical legal trick: A small minority of farmworkers becomes directly applicable through re-classification of their work. For example, many farmworkers do work in packing-sheds, cutting, washing, packing, etc. If a packing-shed is owned by two or more growers, it is re-classified as a packing-house and its workers become "semi-industrial" and are applicable under NLRA. Therefore, all farmworkers are bound by the structure and laws of the NLRB, but only the small minority receives the protection of same.

SECONDARY BOYCOTT: ESSENTIAL WEAPON

Much controversy surrounds what is called a "secondary or consumer boycott." The NLRB maintains that a secondary boycott consists of a conglomerate corporation boycott instead of boycotting the subsidiary of the product in question. For example, if Italian Swiss Colony, the subsidiary, was being boycotted by the farmworkers, they would have no right to boycott the Heublein Corporation, which it is a part of. The "secondary" boycott is essential to the workers, for while a boycott of a small wine subsidiary may not faze large corporations, fear of a union boycott of all the corporations nationally distributed products often will lead to a settlement. This is evidenced by the Minute Maid orange workers strike in which the owner corporation, Coca Cola Foods Division settled for fear of a national conglomerate boycott.

The United Farmworkers contend:

1. The right to boycott a corporation is a primary, not secondary boycott, whether it's a conglomerate or not.

2. Since the United Farmworkers in the past has been categorically denied recognition as a bargaining agent under the Wagner Act, they will not be bound by the laws and structure of the Act.

The main results of the negotiations with Cesar Chavez are that the NLRB will inform the union if any of its actions will be declared illegal. Informed in advance, the union will be able to investigate and rectify the situation.

This struggle with the NLRB was but one crisis of the farmworkers, and now that we have won a victory, we must turn our attention to the many other kinds of repressive government and ruling class actions that continue to face our Pilipino and other farmworker brothers and sisters. This includes the Farm Bureau, anti-farmworker legislation referendums, and the revived lettuce boycott.

THE FARM BUREAU

The Farm Bureau is an extreme right-wing corporate organization, purportedly one of growers, although they comprise less than 50% of it. This organization controlled by greedy rich men has assets of over 4 billion dollars in 49 states and Puerto Rico. Farm Bureau profits come from its insurance companies, pesticides companies, fertilizer and oil companies. Its 55 insurance companies compose one of the largest insurance complexes in the U.S. The Farm Bureau employs over 20,000 unorganized workers. This wealth comes not from representing farmers (as they claim), but from doing business with them. But unlike any other business corporation, the Farm Bureau is tax-exempt. They assert that the above-mentioned businesses are contained in the Farm Bureau "umbrella" in name only, that profits don't go directly to the Farm Bureau. Do they suppose by using fancy nomenclature the American public will swallow 4 billion dollars coming from membership dues?



The United Farmworkers is protesting the Farm Bureau because it is a strike breaker, because it organizes company unions, is racist in its policies, and breaks the law by illegally using tax-exempt money to attack the farmworkers union.

When farmworkers strike, the Farm Bureau becomes a professional strikebreaker—recruiting, importing and paying workers to break these strikes.

When farmworkers organize and freely choose their own union, the Farm Bureau organizes company unions to frustrate their just demands.

The Farm Bureau attacks the United Farmworkers because it is a union of minorities: Filipinos, Chicanos, Blacks. The Farm Bureau does not admit to membership, nor does it employ Chicanos and Blacks... and has long been committed to the preservation of racism in rural America.

In Idaho, the Farm Bureau bought legislation that outlaws the non-violent consumer boycott, assures the continued use of dangerous pesticides, protects the labor contractor system, bans most strikes by farmworkers, and discriminates against farmworkers by denying them the right to run their own organization.

A similar law was passed in Kansas, and most recently, an extremely repressive bill was brought about by the Farm Bureau in Arizona. Union leader Cesar Chavez has been on a water fast for nearly a month to protest this new Arizona legislation. The Farm Bureau is spending hundreds of thousands of dollars in a campaign to secure similar legislation in 20 key agricultural states across the U.S.

In close alliance with the John Birch Society and the National Right to Work Committee the Farm Bureau promotes legislation in the name of free elections and protecting the rights of farmworkers. Yet for 50 years the Farm Bureau bitterly opposed all legislation to protect the rights of farmworkers, denying even the right to a minimum wage, unemployment insurance, and basic health and safety standards. Farm Bureau legislation is a SHAM to deny farmworkers their rights and to take away the strength they need to bargain effectively with their employers. As for free elections, the Farm Bureau itself does not permit its members free secret ballot elections.

In Washington, the Farm Bureau maintains one of the strongest congressional lobbies, despite the fact their tax-exempt status requires a non-political structure.

Strength is growing on the people's side, however. On May 9, in protest of the Farm Bureau's racist and economically repressive policies, the United Farmworkers in Bakersfield, Salinas, and other rural communities, as well as their kapitid in urban areas, picketed farm bureau offices en masse. In Berkeley, on that day, a successful picket involving 75 people occurred and a press conference was held where the UFW made the following demands about the farm bureau.

1. We demand that the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance conduct a thorough investigation of the Farm Bureau's tax-exempt status;
2. We demand that the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare secure complete and public disclosure of the incomes of the principal officers and the sources and uses of its wealth as is required of any organization engaged in labor-management relations;
3. We demand that the U.S. Senate Committee on Government Relations secure similar disclosure information because of an obvious conflict of interest between the farm bureau and the farmers it is supposed to represent;

4. We demand that the U.S. Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare investigate and expose the Farm Bureau for its racist membership and employment policies.

REFERENDUM...

When the anti-farmworker bill (S.B. 40) for the State of California, introduced by grower Ketcham, was killed in the Assembly Labor Relations Committee, Agri-business leaders began to look for other routes to carry out these actions. Several months ago, a group of owners called the Fair Labor Practices Committee came out with an anti-farmworker referendum. They need to get 363,000 signatures before August to take it to the voters. True to form, the growers are using the capitalist profit incentive to buy this legislation. They are paying anyone who can get 100 signatures \$30. There is evidence that the Farm Bureau is behind this, as they have been distributing the petitions. In a recent San Francisco Chronicle interview, a Fair Labor Practices Committee spokesman said that they already had gathered over 1,000,000 signatures. This referendum will be very destructive to the farmworkers movement, and progressive Pilipinos should unite to make their communities aware of the dangers of signing and supporting this referendum.

LETTUCE BOYCOTT

For years lettuce workers have been quietly organizing local UFWOC committees and waiting for the successful completion of the Delano grape strike. In July of 1970, as the grape struggle was ending, the UFWOC petitioned lettuce growers for secret ballot union representation elections. The growers ignored the request, sought out the Teamsters Union (a company type union with a long history of betraying farmworkers' interests) and signed back-door contracts in a motel room in Salinas. The workers were not consulted. Denied elections, they went out on strike on August 24, 1970 to demonstrate that they wanted to be represented by the UFWOC. 5-7000 workers walked off their jobs in what the L.A. Times called "the largest farm labor strike in U.S. history." As a result of the successful strike, three large lettuce companies (Interharvest, Freshpict, and D'Arrigo) rescinded their contracts with the Teamsters and signed contracts with UFWOC. Other growers resisted even though the Teamsters were willing to recognize the United Farmworkers right to represent field workers. On Sept. 17, 1970 a local Salinas judge outlawed all strike activity. The workers chose to appeal that court order and to bring their struggle to the American public by launching a boycott of California-Arizona lettuce.

After a court order against the boycott, an appeal, and a stay in jail for Cesar Chavez, the remaining growers claimed they were ready to negotiate in good faith. UFWOC and the Teamsters extended their jurisdictional agreement for three years, and the Teamsters reaffirmed UFWOC's right to represent all agricultural workers. A moratorium on the lettuce boycott began, and the negotiations started. UFWOC and the growers met and negotiated for the seven months, discussing hiring halls, pesticides, wages, etc. and getting nowhere. On Sept. 29, 1971, 1000 lettuce workers marched in Salinas to demand contracts from their employers who were stalling negotiations, encouraged by the Union's success with the Heublein boycott a month earlier. (UFWOC and Heublein signed a contract covering approximately 2,000 wine and grape workers). After several more meetings characterized by an impasse, for the sake of peace, UFWOC to give up certain major contract clauses vital to their interest. However, the growers would not meet them halfway, and at a final meeting on Nov. 9, 1971, rejected the union's offer, having decided to fight rather than negotiate.

continued

NIXON'S NLRB AND ITS ANTI-UNION SCHEMES

It became clear that the growers had not been talking in good faith, as they had claimed, but in actuality were just buying time in which to stop the union and avoid the boycott. The farmworkers could no longer wait unprotected for justice from the growers and on Nov. 11, UFWOC planned a full-scale international boycott of non-union lettuce, which is going on now and escalating, since the end of the NLRB complications.

The farmworkers want to be represented by UFWOC and want to have UFWOC contracts because they, besides better wages and fair employment practices, offer safety from dangerous pesticides and a solution to a desperate health problem.

What are pesticides?

Pesticides are chemical dusts and liquid sprays which are used on crops to kill insects and other pests. The chemical poisons most widely used on lettuce fall into two categories:

Chlorinated Hydrocarbons.

Chlorinated Hydrocarbons are hard pesticides or long life poisons which do not break down for extremely long periods of time and are stored in the fatty tissues. The best known of the chlorinated hydrocarbons is DDT. Others include DDD, Aldrin and Dieldrin.

Organic Phosphates.

Organic Phosphates were developed by the Nazis during World War II as nerve gases, and are currently used as pesticides. They short-circuit the nervous systems of insects, animals, and men. They break down more readily than the chlorinated hydrocarbons, but are extremely toxic. Parathion is one of the most widely used organic phosphates. One or two drops of parathion on the back of a hand can kill a man. Other organic phosphates are Ethion, Malathion, and TEP.

FARMWORKING CONDITIONS: PESTICIDES AND HEALTH

Agricultural workers are subjected to painful injury, permanent damage to health and even death because of the extent and the negligence with which pesticides are used (especially in the lettuce business). Growers do not provide farmworkers with the essential safety equipment or the necessary training for work with pesticides. Workers are often sprayed as they work in the fields.

FARMWORKERS TESTIFY BEFORE CONGRESS

"About a month ago while I was working in Tulare County, the growers tractor-driven spray rigs sprayed my car and the cars of other workers which were parked along the road nearby. My young child was in the car asleep, along with food for lunch for the entire family. The child was covered by a blanket, but her bottle was covered with spray. The entire car was white with the chemical spray."

Pesticide residues present serious hazards to consumers. The residues of persistent pesticides do not deteriorate or disappear from our food. Neither washing nor cooking can completely remove them. They are taken into our bodies and stored in our fatty tissues, and their harmful effects are cumulative.

The dangers pesticides present for farmworkers are even greater. Forced to work in the extremely hazardous conditions of these poisons, farmworkers suffer from rashes, cramps, chest pains, diarrhea, nausea, impairment of vision, dizziness, convulsions and other symptoms of poisoning. Dr. Irma West of the California Dept. of Public Health reports that the agricultural industry has the highest occupational disease rate, and Rachel Carson in "Silent Spring" says that farmworkers have up to three times as much DDT stored in their body tissue as other citizens.

Yet in spite of the high disease rate and desperate health problems, the National Advisory Commission on Rural Poverty said in 1968: "We have failed miserably to protect the health of low income people in rural areas. The health service they get is not only inadequate in extent but seriously deficient in quality.

Although the farmworkers have rates much higher than the nation of child laborer malnutrition, and death from TB, influenza, accidents, and "la muerte andando" (the walking death, pesticide poisoning), most are inapplicable for state health programs because their migrant status makes it impossible to meet residency requirements.

The United Farmworkers contracts have worked out a solution to this pressing problem in the RFK Medical Plan.

MEDICAL PLAN

The RFK medical plan was founded by the ranch committees (formed to give a voice to all workers in their UFWOC Representation), the union membership, and the Delano strikers August of 1969. There were eight growers contributing to the plan and the benefits were doctor visits, X-rays and lab tests, medicine, maternity and hospitalization. The more working hours of each farmworker, the more benefits they received. In July 1970 the Plan increased its benefits to include surgery and even more liberalized eligibility work hour requirements, and in November was sponsoring a Death Benefit program. Since the beginning of the Plan through Sept. 1971 the Kennedy Plan processed and paid 16,000 claims for a total amount paid out of \$700,000. More than 200 growers now contribute to the plan during the course of the year and approximately 25,000 families or 75,000 people counting dependents are now covered by the plan. All policies, rules and benefits, are set by the six trustees at quarterly meetings. Three are winery people, and three are from the union, Andy Imutan, a Pilipino brother, and Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta.

On October 21, 1971, the Rodrigo Torrenz Memorial Clinic in Delano signed an agreement with the RFK Plan to cover all out patient care in that area. The farmworker only pays \$2 for doctor visits and medicine, and the Plan still pays for surgery, hospitalization and maternity. Other farmworker clinics are being set up by the Plan all in rural communities all over California. The R. F. Kennedy Plan is a righteous program the United Farmworkers has set into motion that would guarantee health coverage to all farmworkers if covered by UFWOC contracts!

UNITED FARMWORKERS CONTRACTS

More insight can be gained into the other aspects of the contracts that the United Farmworkers are fighting for besides health, fair employment practices and wages, by looking at a comparison of the conditions that would exist under no contracts, Teamster contracts, and UFWOC contracts.

No contracts:

No worker representation, with total control of worker by grower. The foreman is the growers representative in the field. He need not answer to workers at all. Use of the labor contractor system, by which the contractor takes his cut out of the workers paycheck. No assurance of work even if the contractor begins. (Overhiring, no rest periods, wages down. No security. No holidays, no overtime, no rest periods, no facation [other than being out of work]. No health plan.) California Rural Legal Assistance (federally funded) has collected statistics that show that more than 90% of California farm jobs violated state health and sanitation laws. In Salinas, from 107 farms 1869 violations were collected. On top of that, lettuce growers are the most indiscriminate users of pesticides. Exorbitant rates are also charged for unsafe and unsanitary shacks for worker housing. Wages: \$1.75 an hour/\$.31 a box.

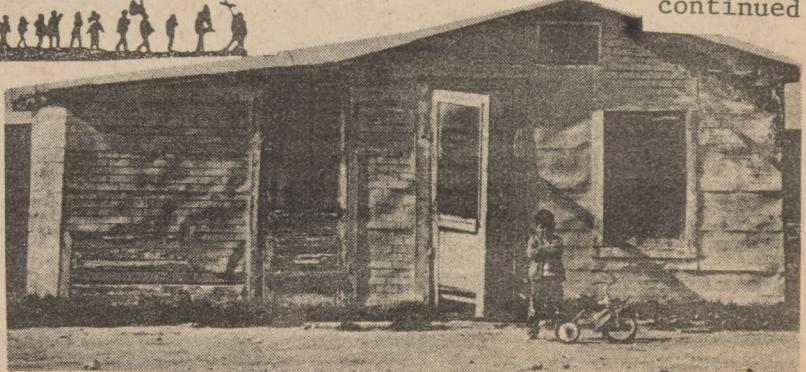
Teamsters:

Union business agent takes care of grievances. Top-down kind of union functioning. No successor clause, no protection of workers from foreman. Use of labor contractor system. Four unpaid holidays, and overtime pay only on these holidays. No mention of rest periods or vacations. A health plan with worker eligibility only after working two consecutive months at 80 hours a month, which means at the beginning of the season, there is no coverage. As for health and safety considerations, the company must only take "reasonable steps"! There is California State Unemployment Insurance coverage. But there is no protection from pesticides. Wages: \$1.75 an hour; hoeing, 1.85 an hour harvesting (machine); 34 cents a box field crew. 5 year contract.

United Farmworkers AFL-CIO:

Formation of ranch committees — every worker participates. Grass roots democracy. Union protection of workers. No indiscriminate firing. Successor clause (workers don't lose contract if original owner sells land). Foremen are in union and responsive to workers needs. Free union hiring hall with no labor contractor middleman fees to pay. Security on the job through seniority. Paid holidays. Nine hour work day, 2.56 per hour extra for overtime for men and time and half for women and minors. Ten minute rest periods every four hours. One week's paid vacation after one year's work and two weeks for the following years. Pay for at least four hours work if one shows up on the job, and pay for standby time. Formation of a Health and Safety Committee comprised of workers. Rigid control of pesticides with free and mandatory baseline cholinesterase tests if organophosphates are used. If worker feels in danger he can't be forced to work. There must be adequate toilet facilities, one per 40 workers, with separate ones for men and women. Cool, potable drinking water and handwashing facilities available. Protective clothing provided by grower and readily available first aid supplies. R. F. Kennedy Medical Plan with many benefits mentioned above, and farmworker clinics being set up. All this is paid for by grower contributions of 10 cents per hour each union member works. Growers pay 5 cents per hour to Economic Development fund which is used for the disabled, old-age, and retraining. Life insurance. Growers provide free housing and food served on a non-profit basis. Wages: \$2.00 an hour hoeing; \$2.10 an hour harvesting (machine); 40.5 cents a box. Contract up for renegotiation after two years.

continued



RECURRING PATTERN OF EXPLOITATION



TEAMSTERS AND UNITED FARMWORKERS

It is important for the relationship between the Teamsters Union and the United Farmworkers to be understood because the growers try to distort the image for their own material advantage. The Teamsters is a company Union notorious for its reactionary white racist policies and willingness to participate in backhanded deals at the expense of the farmworkers interests. At the beginning of the lettuce strike and boycott, the growers refused to hold secret ballot union representation elections. Instead, they ran to the Teamsters Union and signed back-door (called sweetheart) contracts. Subsequent secret ballot and card-check elections held by the Catholic Bishops Committee at the request of the three growers who eventually signed contracts with UFWOC certified that the majority of the workers wanted to be represented by the United Farmworkers. In addition, on March 26, 1971, the Teamster Union reaffirmed United Farmworkers right to represent all agricultural workers. Still the growers try to muddle the issue for two reasons:

1. to lower the morale of the farmworkers in their ability to collectively bargain for their rights and
2. to confuse the issue to the American public, saying that it is just a jurisdictional battle between unions, therefore taking the limelight away from the boycott, the real money-hurting issue for the growers.

It has been clearly shown that the United Farmworkers is the only viable entity to represent the farmworkers and we must support them on this understanding and not be misled by the growers tactics of confusing the situation.

Other issues in which the growers have been perpetrating propaganda against the farmworkers to the public which must be clarified include:

1. "United Farmworkers are against legislation." This is not true. The United Farmworkers want and deserve legislation that will afford them the same protections and effective bargaining power granted industrial workers in 1935 under the Wagner Act. They just don't want oppressive one-sided legislation of the type brought upon them by the NLRB.

2. "During the strike, workers were forced out of the fields by violence."

This is also not true. There were isolated incidents on both sides, but the lettuce workers continued to work non-violently. The growers never challenged the newspaper accounts of 5-7000 strikers. If violence caused 5000 people to strike, why wasn't this massive violence reported? Because it didn't happen, that's why. The lettuce workers went on strike to protest the sweetheart contracts and demand a union of their own choice.

RECURRING PATTERN OF EXPLOITATION

To understand the legislation and other oppressive acts that face our farmworker kapatid today, and to effectively support their struggle, we must not view the NLRB, the Farm Bureau, etc. as separate issues but as part of a pattern, a recurring pattern of exploitation integral to a monopoly capitalist economy. The connection between the issues in the farmworkers struggle can be seen since 1968. At that time, Nixon introduced a provision in an administration farm bill that would have restricted farmworkers rights, including boycotts. The bill failed, but recently Nixon appointed Peter Nash, one of the authors of the 1968 bill, to the NLRB. He was instrumental in the breakdown of the negotiations with the lettuce workers, and in the recent NLRB "offensive." Another example is the anti-farmworker referendum that seems to have appeared out of nowhere. When SB40, another bill introduced by grower Ketchum in California State Legislature failed, a group of growers suddenly formed an organization and came out with this referendum, which is amazingly similar to the original SB40 bill. In addition, although the organization has a "paper name" of Fair Labor Practices Committee, the Farm Bureau is apparently financially backing the effort and distributing the petitions.

Seeing these connections in the context of a pattern, we can understand that the people bringing about these actions are not greedy "individuals," but part of a class, a part of a ruling class that profits not only from the oppression of the farmworkers, but the majority of the working people in this country, and we must wage our struggle from this perspective.

We also have to understand the positive context of this pattern. When victories are won for the farmworkers in terms of concessions or compromises made by the landlord class growers, it is not due to any moralistic benevolence or fair play on their part. The capitalist that this class operates under is very hard and scientific and victories are won only if organized peoples pressure is brought to bear upon the situation. This can be seen in the case of the NLRB. Over a million letters were sent to Senator Done in Washington protesting the NLRB's actions and demanding rectification. (16,000 from San Francisco area alone.) In addition, on March 16 of this year thousands of farmworkers and their supporters protested in several cities at Republican Party (main controllers of NLRB) headquarters. In Fresno, about 2000 workers demonstrated while smaller picket lines appeared in Washington, Chicago, New York and other cities. Yet now, the NLRB is trying to make it appear as if they voluntarily withdrew the court injunction, even though this pressure was exerted.

Therefore we must understand this struggle as a building process, and not necessarily see the growing anti-farmworker campaign as a discouraging thing, but see it as representing how strong our counter struggle has grown, and learn from the effects of our past struggle to wage a united front in the future!

What you can do to help your Pilipino and other brothers and sisters in the United Farmworkers: 1. Buy only lettuce which bears the Farmworkers Union black eagle label on the box.

2. Urge your local grocer, restaurants, airlines, etc. to buy UFW-picked lettuce, which is available year round in this area.

3. Spread the word around about Farmworkers Union Label lettuce. It is of the highest quality and grown without the use of DDT-related chemicals.

4. Send letters to the government committees mentioned above in the unions demands about the Farm Bureau, demanding they be met.

5. Protest Farm Bureau offices in response to their blatant actions, most recently in Arizona. The Farm Bureau office is located at 2855 Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley. 6. Pressure liberal politicians who have voiced their support of the farmworkers to denounce the actions of the Farm Bureau and other actions of this nature. (Congressman Ronald Dellums, Philip Burton and Jim Stewart attended a press conference at Pier 44 in San Francisco and voiced their support in this matter.)

In the long run the farmworkers struggle transcends economics. Although the growers claim they are just out for money, the issues involved are also social ones. With the growing "technological revolution," the majority of the farmworkers will be displaced by mechanization. The average farmworker in the U.S. works hard, earns about \$2000 a year, and granted deserves better wages. But the dream of the union is bigger than that. "Our goal is a national union of the poor dedicated to world peace and serving the needs of all men and women who suffer." Already the United Farmworkers have the following programs that serve the whole life needs of the workers and their families — credit union — medical clinic — retirement farm — medical insurance — death benefit insurance — family counseling — legal aid — co-op gas station — economic development fund (more co-ops, retirement housing, etc.) — huelga school — La Paz retreat center — art and cultural center — library — and newspaper.

In the final analysis, the farmworkers struggle is the same as that of all working class people, one of self-determination and building a better life, through basic change of the society that denies us these rights.

LONG LIVE THE UNITY OF THE UNITED FARMWORKERS' STRUGGLE!
MAKIBAKA! HUWAG MATAKOT!

For more information about the United Farmworkers AFL-CIO or to get the UF newspaper "El Macriado" (a bi-weekly in English and Spanish/10 cents), call these United Farmworker offices in the Bay Area:

San Francisco	864-5613
Oakland	635-0488
Berkeley	652-7213
Palo Alto	321-5933
San Jose	292-4651

La Posada

Salinas, California

On May 17 of this year forty farm workers and their families were evicted from their homes by more than sixty-five cops. Seven persons were arrested when the workers and their families tried to defend their homes from the police attack. The families are now living in tents in front of what was their barrio until their demands for housing and community self-determination are met.

This new attack by the ruling class California growers and their puppets in Sacramento began six months ago when Pic N Pack (part of S.S. Pierce of Boston) decided to sell the land they owned in California, including La Posada, the barrio where the evicted families lived. Since the eviction the workers have organized to defend their community and to find alternative housing.

The growers' control of the City, State and Federal Governments was clearly shown when the workers' demand for low cost housing and justice were completely ignored by officials. There was even a delegation that went to Washington to talk with the head of the Office of Economic Opportunity, the sell out of Sanchez. The O.E.O. had built a new labor camp near King City, and the farm workers wanted to use this camp, which was still empty, for alternative housing. The "Tio Taco" of Sanchez did nothing — except to follow the orders of the rich people who put him where he was. The Salinas' growers did not want the people of La Posada, who are in the Farm Workers Union, to live in this camp in King City, because they want to use this camp for bringing in scabs.

While the local police try all types of intimidation on the workers, the Government tries to divide the people by offering some families houses in a labor camp near the City of Gilroy — houses that ninety other working families had been waiting to move into for over a week. The workers immediately rejected this piggish proposal; no more worker against worker; no more Chicano against Chicano.

When the final eviction notice came the workers set up picket lines in front of La Posada and soon other workers and students came to show their support. The growers and the government waited, and in a press conference they said no action would be taken. The next day, however, a regular invasion took place.

The pigs came early in the morning when the majority of the adults were working in the fields, and began evicting families from their trailer homes. When the people protested their eviction the pigs attacked with riot control weapons, dogs, automatic weapons, etc. — the history of Third World labor struggles in California has been one in which the ruling class has used all their force and power trying to break strikes, develop "white riots," etc. After the pig attack seven people were arrested, charged with trespassing "private" property and assaulting "peace" officers.

But the workers have decided to continue the struggle, not with individual solutions by each family, but by camping all together in front of La Posada until their rights for low cost community housing are recognized.

THE LAND BELONGS TO THE PEOPLE.

Venceremos
Fernando Beron
San Francisco Newsreel

EDITORIAL from p. 2

in the Philippines by the Hukbalahap. After the war the people were ready for independence and revolution. In 1945 Ho Chi Minh declared Vietnam independent from French colonialism . . . in the Philippines, the Huk leadership made the serious mistake of telling the people to lay down their arms and welcome the U.S. back as "liberators." Both the French and Americans attempted to reassert their "authority" after the war. In the Philippines, the U.S. granted sham independence, imposed unequal treaties and installed "puppet" presidents. The U.S. crushed the Huk rebellion of the early 50's due primarily to mistakes made by the Huk leadership. In Vietnam, the French fought for 9 years but were unable to crush the Vietnamese independence movement. In 1954 they admitted defeat after the battle of Dien Bien Phu and agreed to withdraw from Indochina within two years.

At that time the U.S. stepped into the shoes of the French in order to hold back the growing tide of national liberation movements. This is when the U.S.-Indochina war begins and the peoples of Indochina and the Philippines establish stronger unity fighting against the common enemy—U.S. imperialism.

Wherever there is oppression and exploitation, there will be resistance. The struggle of the Indochinese people against imperialist domination has continued and strengthened. Also in the Philippines, the struggle has intensified a hundred-fold in recent years with the emergence of the revolutionary Movement for National Democracy. The two struggles are essentially the same and closely interrelated. The irreversible defeat of the U.S. at the hands of the Indochinese people has altered the world and helped create very favorable conditions for the national liberation struggle of the Pilipino people. Many experiences and lessons gained by the Indochinese can be applied to the struggle in the Philippines. Realizing this, people in the Philippines have launched massive demonstrations against the U.S. use of Philippine territory for bases to commit aggression in Indochina as well as against the complicity of the puppet government in this U.S.-sponsored war. In this way, the Pilipino people have given assistance to the just struggle of the Indochinese people. We Pilipinos living in America should learn from our brothers and sisters in the homeland and follow their fine example.

Our movement here should harbor no childlike illusions about what the future holds. When U.S. imperialism is forced out of Indochina, it will fight all the more fiercely to hold onto the Philippines. Southeast Asia is one of the richest areas of the world in terms of raw materials, markets and potential investments. Therefore, the U.S. will continue to fight to keep the area secure for capitalist penetration.

But imperialism no longer calls the shots, just as U.S. defeat in Indochina is inevitable, so too the continued growth of the revolutionary movement against U.S. imperialism, feudalism, and bureaucrat capitalism in the Philippines is a sure thing. As Pilipinos, we should look closely at the struggle in Indochina and develop an understanding about some crucial realities—

The U.S. will back up the most corrupt and unpopular puppet governments in Manila in order to maintain control of the country.

When this fails, the U.S. will be prepared to attempt to suppress directly the struggle of the Pilipino people.

In this matter, U.S. imperialism will not shy away from atrocities and genocide such as those being committed against the Indochinese people today.

As Third World working class people in America, Pilipino-Americans will be expected to go to fight in the Philippines and to die for the interests of the U.S. capitalists.

The revolutionary struggle in the Philippines will be long and difficult . . . but just as in Indochina today, the Pilipino people will win final victory and gain self-determination and national independence.

During the course of the struggle, the political consciousness of the people in the U.S. will grow rapidly, and progressive and revolutionary people throughout the country will support the struggle of the Pilipino people—just as today thousands of people now support the Indochinese people's struggle.

The struggle of the Indochinese people is our struggle, because it has greatly contributed in making a better world for everyone—a world free from imperialist oppression and exploitation. In this way it relates directly to the struggle of Pilipino people, in the Philippines as well as here. It relates to all people struggling to determine their own destiny.

As Pilipinos in America we should actively participate with other progressive people in demonstrating our opposition to the war in Indochina and support for the 7 Point Peace Proposal of the Vietnamese.

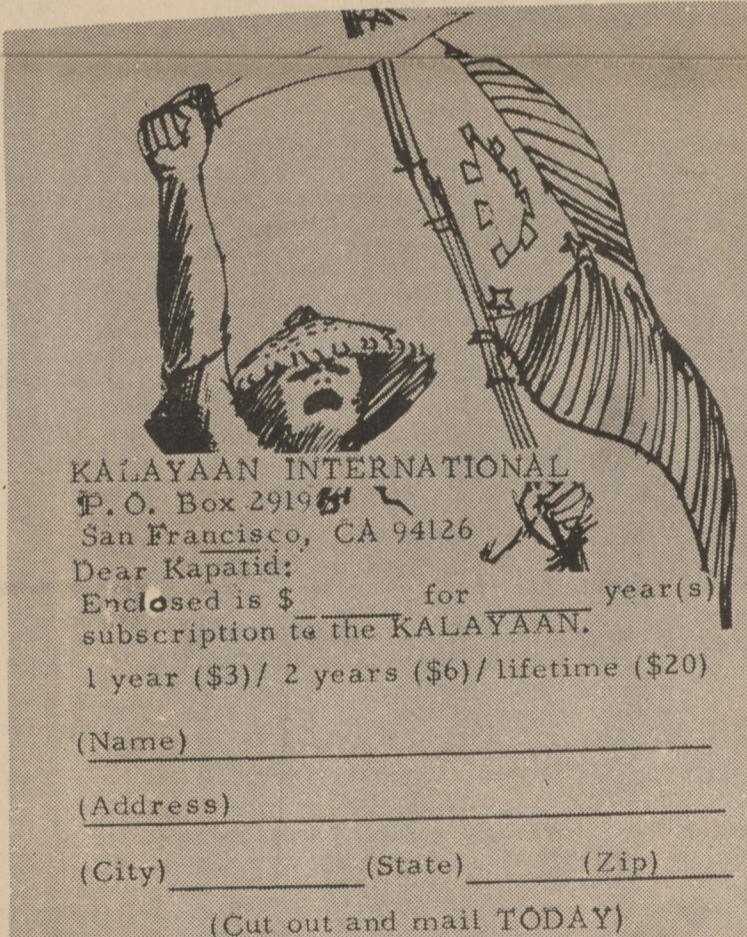
LONG LIVE THE UNITY OF THE PILIPINO AND INDOCHINESE PEOPLES!

LONG LIVE THE UNITY OF THE AMERICAN AND INDOCHINESE PEOPLES!

OPPOSE THE WAR—SUPPORT THE 7 POINT PEACE PROPOSAL!!

The Movement for a Democratic Philippines recently launched the *National Liberation Forum*, a monthly tabloid geared toward the dissemination of progressive ideas, with Philippine progressive personalities, nationalist bourgeoisie, professionals and national democrats as its target audience. Through the NLF, the MDP hopes to expose the continuous deception of the Filipino people by cheap Wall Street propaganda which has permeated to a great extent the Philippine social structure, thereby selling the interest of the people to imperialist interests.

To expose the neo-colonial control of the economy by the power elite which comprises only 1% of the population, resulting in the poverty, misery and exploitation of the Filipino masses; to counteract the vast propaganda network of the Marcos puppet administration, and to fiscalize government corruption and misrule; to uncover the sham democracy being endured by the Filipino people; and to help project the national liberation struggle of the Filipino masses against the clutches of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism which have enslaved them for over three centuries, are the aims of the NLF, a product of the revolutionary momentum sweeping the entire country today.



KOREA: ROAD TO PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION

"The basic line of national unification maintained all along by the Government of the Republic is to unify the North and South by the Korean people themselves independently on democratic principles without any interference of outside forces following the withdrawal of all foreign troops from South Korea."

—Kim Il Sung



Introduction: Why is the question of reunification of Korea significant for us to understand today? A brief historical accounting of the circumstances preceding the partitioning of the country in 1945 and description of the economic & political development of North and South Korea since that time.

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2400 Dana, Berkeley, Calif. 94704.



The war of resistance against U.S. aggression may drag on. Our people may have to face new sacrifices of life and property. Whatever happens, we must keep firm our resolve to fight the U.S. aggressors till total victory.

*Our mountains will always be, our rivers will always
be, our people will always be;
The American invaders defeated, we will rebuild
our land ten times more beautiful.*

No matter what difficulties and hardships lie ahead, our people are sure of total victory. The U.S. imperialists will certainly have to quit. Our Fatherland will certainly be reunified. Our fellow-countrymen in the South and in the North will certainly be re-united under the same roof. We, a small nation, will have earned the signal honour of defeating, through heroic struggle, two big imperialisms—the French and the American—and of making a worthy contribution to the world national-liberation movement.

Ho Chi Minh